

HONGKONG WEEKLY PRESS

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LV.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 10TH MAY, 1902.

No. 19

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BIRTH.

On the 27th April, at No. 42, Selegie Road, Singapore, the wife of SIMON MARBECK, of Kuala Lumpur, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 25th April, at St. George's Church, Penang, by the Rev. Frank W. Haines, B.A., FREDERICK J. C. ROSS, Barrister-at-law, Penang, to LUCY MARGARET, widow of the late JOHN ALLAN.

On the 26th April, at H.B.M. Consulate, and afterwards at St. Joseph's Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. Fr. M. Kennelly, S.J., JANE MABEL, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAM QUINCY, of Shanghai, to GEORGE J. LINCOLN, second son of Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE NETHERTON, of Kilburn, London.

DEATHS.

On the 23rd March, at South Dartmouth, Mass., U.S.A., from paralysis, GEORGE HENRY WHEELER, of the Standard Oil Company of New York.

On the 28th April, at Takaradzu, Japan, EDNA H. THORN, daughter of EDGAR VOORIS and FRANCES HASTINGS THORN, of Yokohama.

HONGKONG WEEKLY PRESS

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ARRIVALS OF MAIL.

The French mail of the 4th April arrived, per M. M. steamer *Laos*, on the 6th May (32 days); the Canadian mail of the 15th April arrived, per C. P. R. steamer *Empress of Japan*, on the 6th May (22 days); and the English mail of the 12th April arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Ballaarat*, on the 8th May (26 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

An important Association, after the model of Lloyds, has been formed in Japan, with Prince Arisugawa as President and Prince Konoye as Vice-President.

It is stated that King Edward's reception of Count Matsukata was characterised by great cordiality. The Count afterwards attended an evening Court at Buckingham Palace. He has received innumerable invitations to public functions, including a luncheon at the Mansion House and a dinner given by the Bankers' Association.

It is reported from Lisbon that no progress has been made with regard to Portugal's claims from China for an extension of the Macao territory, and that the Ministers of the Powers at Peking strongly oppose the claims. The *Seculo* of Lisbon comments bitterly on "England's selfishness" in giving no support to her oldest ally.

Lord Alverstone (formerly Sir Richard Webster) presided this week over a meeting in London to promote more extended and more systematic Church missions in the Far East. A proposal was made to found a second bishopric in North China. The Archbishop of Canterbury dwelt on the Church's vast responsibility owing to England's relations with China and Japan.

The trial at Singapore of three Chinese for the murder of Mr. Rutherford on the 9th ult. closed on the 3rd instant, two of the men being sentenced to death, while the third got fourteen years for housebreaking. Since then, as a result of this murder, great severity has been shown in dealing with robbery cases at the Singapore Assizes, and seven men between them got 107 years' imprisonment—over 15 years each.

It is stated that Sheng Kungpao has lately received a despatch from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Peking announcing its favourable consideration of the question of establishing Chinese Consulates in important centres of trade in British territories. This despatch it seems was the outcome of a telegram to the Chinese Foreign Office from Sheng, in which he stated that he had found the British Commissioner, Sir J. Mackay, willing to consider favourably the question of the establishment of Chinese consulates in British territories, under the favoured nation clause, and asking whether this clause inserted in the new treaty should be considered as settled.

Rumours are again circulated of a probable visit of the Russian statesman and financier, Mr. de Witte, to the Far East. He will leave St. Petersburg, it is said, at the end of May, and travelling by the Siberian Railway to Vladivostok, will remain there about a week. From Vladivostok he will again take the railway to the Liaotung peninsula, calling at Nicholas and Harbin en route. Dalny will be specially inspected. By this the end of July will have been reached and subsequently the Minister will proceed to Tientsin and Peking, thence retracing his steps to Corea, whence, after visiting Seoul, Chemulpo, Masampo and other places, he will cross to Nagasaki, and go on to Kobe, Kyoto, Yokohama and Tokyo. At the end of August or the beginning of September, Mr. de Witte will return to Russia, via Vladivostok.

An Association has been formed in Tokyo for the purpose of founding hospitals in China, inasmuch as such a course is considered the best means of securing Chinese sympathy with Occidental science.

Our Manila correspondent telegraphed on the 4th inst. to the following effect:—Colonel Baldwin's field battery and two battalions of infantry in Mindanao have captured Datto Bayan's main fort. The eighty-four survivors in the fort surrendered to the United States troops. The defeat was a crushing one, the Filipino dead piling the trenches. The Americans lost seven officers killed and three officers and thirty-seven men wounded. The second fort is now in view. The Sultan of Taraco has asked for a conference with the United States authorities.

According to the *Universal Gazette* the British Minister, Sir E. Satow, and Vice-President Hu Yufen, have just signed an agreement which provides that Great Britain shall restore the Peking-Shanhai Railway to China on the 20th June next, on condition that the other Powers agree to it. Another provision of the agreement is that British military officers shall be appointed as Associate Directors of the Railway Administration, to look after matters in connection with the transportation of foreign troops by the railway. However, a Peking telegram of the 2nd inst. to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* says:—The British-Chinese agreement about the returning of the Shanhai-kwan-Peking Railway, which will take place on June 1st, has been signed.

A Peking despatch of the 28th ult. to the *Osaka Asahi* says:—The Minister of a certain Power has addressed a note to one of the Chinese plenipotentiaries with reference to the report that the Chinese Government had agreed to give special privileges to Russia, independent of the Manchurian Convention, before it was signed. The Chinese plenipotentiary replied that the report was unfounded. The foreign Minister went on to ask what the Chinese Government would do should the report turn out to be true, and the plenipotentiary replied that he could not look into the future. The *Universal Gazette's* Peking correspondent reports that, in addition to what has already appeared in the Shanghai papers in regard to the Manchurian Convention, there are sixteen special articles which are being kept perfectly secret by M. Lessar and the Chinese plenipotentiaries.

It is reported in Shanghai mandarin circles to the effect that it is proposed to open the following cities to International trade this year, or early next:—Chihli province: the prefectural city of Shuntienfu (Peking); Kwangtung province: the district city of Chiangmenhaien (Kongmoon), in Haichow prefecture; Hunan province: the prefectural cities of Changshafu and Changtsefu; Anhwei province: the prefectural city of Anch'ingfu (Nganking); Szechuan province: the prefectural city of Chengtufu and the departmental city of Hsüchou; and Kiangsi province: the independent sub-prefectural city of Huk'ou. (If these eight cities, four are provincial capitals and the headquarters of the Governors or Viceroy of the provinces concerned; that is to say, Shuntien (Governor of Peking); Changsha (Governor of Hunan); Anch'ing or Nganking (Governor of Anhui); and Chengtu (Viceroy of Szechuan).)

THE MACAO EXTENSION QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 5th April.)

In the absence of any exact details as to the claims made by Portugal for a territorial extension in the neighbourhood of Macao, it is difficult to judge what justification there is for irritation in Lisbon over the lack of support by Great Britain to the Portuguese request. Some time ago our Macao correspondent informed us that the Portuguese authorities were anxious to get China's consent to an extension of the Macao boundaries which would take in the Heungshan district, a proceeding which would be somewhat similar to what happened with regard to Kowloon when the New Territory was added to this Colony of Hongkong. However, a telegram dated London, 29th April, to the *Shanghai Mercury* and *Times*, says:—"A telegram received here to-day from Lisbon states that the Portuguese Government has instructed the Portuguese Minister in Peking to demand the cession by China to Portugal of two small islands near Macao." Whichever version of the claim is right, it seems that Portugal is opposed not only by China, but also by the representatives of the other Powers at Peking, and it may therefore be concluded that her desire for expansion is not likely to be gratified. One of the Lisbon papers, the *Seculo*, it will be seen, comments bitterly on England's selfishness in not supporting the claim of her "oldest ally." As we have said, it is difficult to judge what justification there is for such language. We are unaware whether Portugal is endeavouring to get from China this cession of territory as a protection for the Colony, which is overlooked by hills in the same way in which old British Kowloon was overlooked; or whether the desire for more land is in consequence of the recent display of energy which has marked Senhor HORTA e COSTA's second period of rule at Macao. In view of the excellent relations which have for so long prevailed between Hongkong and Macao, British residents here would be glad to see the legitimate aspirations of our Portuguese neighbour gratified, especially if strategic reason render it advisable for the present boundary to be shifted. But at the same time it must be confessed that Portugal has selected a very bad time to prefer her request. All the Powers have been so strongly protesting their determination to maintain the absolute integrity of China that it was not to be expected that a claim like that now made on behalf of Macao could meet with their approval. It is much to be regretted, however, that any friction should be caused, and especially any friction between Great Britain and Portugal. We trust that a way may be found of settling the matter amicably and that any rectification of the Macao boundary which is demanded for the actual safety of the Colony may be consented to by China.

Sir James Mackay and the Chinese Commissioners held the seventeenth official meeting on afternoon of the 1st inst., and according to the *Sin Wan Pao*, the subjects brought up for discussion at the meeting were the reduction of duties on native goods exported into foreign lands and the right of residence in the interior of China by British merchants for trading purposes. The Chinese Commissioners, it is further reported by the *Sin Wan Pao*, firmly refused to comply with the demand of Sir James Mackay in regard to the latter subject, because they feared that such a compliance would cause endless troubles to China in future, as it is impossible to establish foreign consulates everywhere in the country or to put the foreign under the jurisdiction of the native officials.

TARIFF REVISION.

(Daily Press, 6th May.)

The appendix on Tariff Revision in the China Association's 1901-1902 report contains three letters, a copy of the address presented to Sir ERNEST SATOW by the Association on the 19th November, the occasion of his visit to Shanghai, and an account of the reception of the Association's Committee by Sir ERNEST SATOW. The last two documents are the most interesting, and as we have had no opportunity of publishing them in full we propose to consider them briefly now, though they are by this time rather ancient history. The address commences by acknowledging the British Minister's success in withstanding an imposition of duties on a scale which, in the absence of compensatory advantages, would have been destructive of trade and have been construed by China as a sign of weakness. China, the Association naturally held, is not entitled to a readjustment of import tariff as long as she maintains unredressed the abuses and illegal restrictions against foreign trade. After recalling a previous letter to Sir ERNEST SATOW on the more important commercial matters with which the new treaty must deal, the address goes on to protest that the difficulties in the way of a successful solution are not insuperable and claims as the one great difficulty the question of *lekin*, the abolition of which seems as far off as it did forty years ago. Foreign merchants look with a distrust which is not to be wondered at on the scheme for sweeping away the whole *lekin* system, foreign imports in return being subjected to a large increase of duty at the port of entry. "The whole experience of foreign relations with China," the address says, "has taught the lesson that to the Chinese mind 'treaties mean little more than a convenient means of disposing of a pressing difficulty; promises without intention of fulfilment, chicanery and evasion have been the constant experience, and it is gravely to be doubted whether, in her present necessitous condition, China has the power, even if she has the will, to carry out the suggested arrangement." The reform of China's corruption "can only, it appears to us, be effected through her own initiative; no foreign treaty is likely in the slightest degree to influence her in the desired direction; rather would we suggest that the granting to her of concessions in return for mere promises is more likely to retard than to advance the day of her awakening." The only course to be pursued, therefore, is continued insistence upon treaty rights, aided by a freer and wider intercourse with China and coupled with an extension of the operations of the Imperial Maritime Customs, whereby the power of *lekin* will be broken and the way paved for the acceptance of the higher tariff which is sought by China.

Sir ERNEST SATOW, receiving the address, expressed his opinion that no concession should be made to China except in return for countervailing concessions to trade. The representatives of other Powers, however, were not of the same opinion, and he could not insist on having his own way. He agreed entirely with all said in the address and recognised the difficulty of arriving at an opinion on the practicability of the removal of *lekin* barriers. A discussion followed on other matters connected with the commercial negotiations, at the conclusion of which Sir ERNEST SATOW reverted to the *lekin* question. Speaking quite privately,

he said that, when the question of tariff revision came up for discussion by the diplomatic body at Peking, an additional 5 per cent. to China was proposed in return for a guarantee of no *lekin* on foreign goods; but how, he asked, can we be certain that *lekin* is not levied on foreign goods—a boat carrying native and foreign goods and paying *lekin* on the former would almost certainly have to pay on the latter as well.

After reading the eminently sensible remarks made at this interview between the Shanghai branch of the China Association and the British Minister in November last, we may be permitted to wonder that it was only by a majority of 24 votes to 21 that the Shanghai branch on the 15th ult. rejected a resolution to support Sir JAMES MACKAY's proposal for a 10 per cent. surtax on foreign imports in return for the entire abolition by China of all internal taxation of whatever kind. It is true that the resolution added the clause:—"While, however, recording this opinion as to the policy of the scheme, the Association holds that, as the experience of the past has impelled a strong disbelief in Chinese promises and Chinese honesty of intention, it is imperative that as a condition of the scheme becoming operative China shall be first required to show, not merely by the removal of the *lekin* and other barriers, but by the institution of a reformed system of fiscal administration in the Provinces, that she is both able and willing to carry out the agreement both in spirit and in letter." Yet, as the distrust felt by the members of the Association was still so strong, it is curious that no less than twenty-one of them felt themselves so sanguine as to support the British commissioner's proposal on the strength of China's guarantee, however strengthened. It is unnecessary for us now to say anything more about Sir JAMES MACKAY's scheme. We have discussed it amply already and have quoted various opinions on it. The scheme is happily not likely to be revived, and the China merchant, unabashed by the rebuke emanating from Printing House Square and the Foreign Office, may congratulate himself that he has not allowed himself to be put off once again with the old promises. A solution is still to be sought to a most difficult question, and the solving is sure to occupy a long time. But a deferred solution is beyond doubt preferable to such a hasty and ill-considered scheme as that lately before us.

THE SHIPPING COMBINATION.

(Daily Press, 7th May.)

The statement which reaches us from New York, via London, that the new shipping combination which has practically captured the whole of the transatlantic steamship trade, British, German, and American, has now designs on the Orient, will be received with interest rather than with wonder. The ambition of the combining parties could not be expected to be easily satisfied, seeing what capital they are known to be able to command. The original pretext for the transatlantic organisation was to check ruinous competition; but it was not to be disguised, at the time of the first announcement of the deal, that greater money-making ideas were involved. The point which excited most anxiety, when the fact was appreciated that the gigantic combination was an American concern, was to what extent was concerned the British lien over the fast merchant cruisers in event of war. Mr. BALFOUR stated in the House of Commons at the end of last month that Britain had still as complete a control as

before on vessels on which the lien has existed. The combination, it appears from another telegram, automatically dissolves in case of a war concerning Great Britain, the United States, or Germany. The main cause for alarm is therefore removed, but there are also involved, as Mr. BALFOUR said, many complex questions. Without careful investigation, he stated, the Government could not be expected to depart from its traditional policy of allowing unrestricted competition. It is satisfactory, in view of this, to know that an Admiralty commission is considering the whole question. The difficulty of preventing British subjects from selling out to foreigners is not one which will be minimised out here, where within the last few years we have seen numerous instances of the practice. But, considering the display of "spread eagle-ism" lately attributed to Mr. SHAW, the United States Secretary of the Treasury (a man whom most would think too level-headed to boast in the wild way in which he is reported to have done), when he talked of the Stars-and-Stripes in future waving over the Pacific, the commission may well in its deliberations look at the question whether the British mercantile trade would not be the better for more Government encouragement and whether more generous treatment would not check the present readiness to sell out to the highest foreign bidder. We have, as Lord SELBORNE said at the Academy banquet, good reason to be proud of our mercantile marine's work, nowhere better manifested than in connection with the South African War. When the First Lord of the Admiralty openly asserts that the continued enjoyment and possession by Great Britain of this mercantile marine is indispensable to the prosperity of the country, we may surely be justified in hoping that our Admiralty will in the future offer every inducement for this "splendid marine" to continue under the British flag alike in peace and in war.

HONGKONG AND THE TROPICAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

(Daily Press, 8th May.)

It is gratifying to hear that the visit to Hongkong of Sir FRANCIS LOVELL in connection with the London School of Tropical Medicine has been attended with satisfactory results. We wrote last week that we hoped that equal success could be looked for in this port to that obtained in the Straits, and this we learn from Sir FRANCIS LOVELL is almost certain to be the case. Indeed the results of the visit have exceeded anticipations. The Government, we understand, is preparing to make a generous grant of £100 a year for five years, two or three of the leading local firms have already subscribed \$500, and several others have followed with smaller, though still very useful, donations. The local Chinese community has as yet barely been approached, and in view of the nearly approaching Coronation celebration nothing much can be done just now; but, seeing that Dr. Ho Kai and a few others of our principal Chinese fellow-citizens are strongly in favour of the School's work and have pledged themselves to commend it to their countrymen here, we have no doubt whatever that ample support will be forthcoming from them in due time. As we stated a few days ago, the London School of Tropical Medicine has so far been self-supporting, but there is a debt of £4,000 still remaining to be paid off on the School buildings, and in order to maintain the efficiency of the teaching provided improvements and additions need to be taken in hand at once.

It is unnecessary to point out how just is the claim of such an institution, the object of which is to afford instruction and training in the treatment of tropical diseases, on the assistance of Hongkong, Singapore, and like places, where the problem of the treatment of illnesses different from those of more temperate climates is constantly before the medical man. When the London School is put upon a sound footing, not only will the latter be able to learn what are his difficulties before he comes out to the East, but afterwards he will be encouraged to go back and give the benefit of his experience to those at the School. Hongkong, subject as it is to the attacks of several violent diseases, could not afford to turn aside from the invitation extended by the representative of the School of Tropical Medicine. Nevertheless it is pleasant to learn that the reply to this invitation was even better than was hoped for. An excellent beginning has been made, and it only remains for the Hongkong public to follow, within the limitations of their means, the good lead which has been given them. The local representation remains in the hands of Dr. RENNIE, the secretary of the committee which was appointed on the 1st instant, and we may therefore rest assured that the work will not be allowed to suffer from neglect. Hongkong should be able in the future to aid materially in the prosecution of the difficult study of tropical hygiene, without a doubt to the ultimate great benefit of the Colony itself, as well as of our neighbours.

THE WATER FAMINE.

(Daily Press, 5th May.)

H.E. the ACTING GOVERNOR has courteously informed us that every effort is being made to supply the public with fresh water. The scenes which are daily enacted are pitiful, and the results of the water famine in this colony will be most disastrous from a sanitary view unless providence or a burst of real official energy intervenes. The present state of affairs is without a precedent in the history of the colony; it is a disgrace to our past administration and will, it is trusted, never be allowed by the community to occur again. To a colony that can boast of a surplus of considerably over a million dollars it is, to put it very charitably, a sorry spectacle. A correspondent informs us that in various places on the mainland "tons of water are daily running to waste." We have no means at present of verifying this, but it is conceivable that even our undermanned Public Works Department has. It is possible that if there be sufficient water on the mainland to keep three public temporary tanks going on the Praya there is also enough to keep a dozen tanks supplied. Our engineers, it is said, hesitate to start new tanks because of the difficulty of conveying the water across. But, with a surplus of a million dollars, is the Government to sit down and contemplate difficulties of transport? Are the residents on the higher levels to be compelled to send their servants to scoop up puddles of contaminated water, with plague, cholera, small-pox, and diphtheria increasing in our midst, because our engineering or some other department hesitates to spend money on chartering boats to transport water? If any water is running to waste on the mainland it should continue to do so no longer; we want every drop of it, and the community should see that they obtain it. If our water boats are not enough, then charter more. If our engineers are not sufficient, then engage some temporary men; it does not require a post-graduate of civil engineering to supervise the conveyance of water. The famine has lasted long enough, and passive resignation will not produce a remedy or a rainfall. The coming jubilation over the Coronation might well be preceded by a week's humiliation for past benighted administration, which has brought us to such a state, and earnest supplication for an improved and enlightened executive in the future.

THE ANTECEDENTS OF THE ANGLO-JAPANESE AGREEMENT.

(Daily Press, 9th May.)

The discussion which has arisen over the new arrangement of Powers in the Far East has brought many interesting ideas into being and has helped, on some points, to elucidate what was previously obscure. Much that has been written, of course, comes under the category of mere conjecture, while the origin of certain statements is purposely kept vague, for diplomatic reasons. Last month the London *Daily Chronicle* published a "page in the secret history" of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, the opinions and facts being elicited from "an authority whose position behind the scenes entitles him to more than ordinary respect." We have to rest content with our contemporary's testimonial to the authority in question, as there is no internal indication who he may be. The account, however, which he gives of how Japan came to welcome as she did the prospect of alliance with Great Britain is decidedly worthy of attention. He begins by taking the situation after the signature of the Treaty of Shimonoseki in 1895. Up to that period, he says, in the field of both military and administrative reform, Germany had been the preceptor of Japan, thus creating for herself a secret friend in the Far East, who might have easily been induced to pounce down upon Russia at Vladivostok if ever that Empire made war on Germany, even though there was no positive understanding to that effect. However, when the German Foreign Office learnt that France and Russia were about to join hands in the Far East, "forgetting the wisdom of the good old English maxim that two are company, but three none, Germany offered to join, and was accepted, though whether to the satisfaction of the other two is not clear." The reason for this change of attitude on the part of Germany the *Daily Chronicle's* informant does not go into; this is one of the pages of secret history which still remains to be exposed, if indeed it is ever likely to be. But, he says, so rapid was the change of Germany's policy in the Far East that at this time the German Minister at Tokyo was actually in possession of the Chain of the Black Eagle to present to the Mikado, when there suddenly reached him the order to offer Japan the "friendly advice" to give up the territorial acquisitions which she had obtained from China! Thus Germany joined for the time the Dual Alliance, and thereby lost the public opinion of Japan entirely and caused the Japanese nation, so to speak, to throw itself into the arms of England who then and there might have had a treaty of alliance. The *Chronicle's* informant concludes:—"Whether it would have been better to conclude this alliance at that time, when Russia was not yet in possession of Manchuria, and, above all, had not yet occupied Port Arthur, is a question which it would now be superfluous to discuss; but it is certain that Germany never did a stupider thing than when she forfeited the hold which she had already established on the gratitude and attachment of Japan." This account of the genesis of the Anglo-Japanese compact is, as we have said, worthy of attention, and the person who furnished it may claim to have gone a long way toward convicting Germany of a mistake in policy when she helped to rob Japan of a great part of the fruits of her victory over China. But, of course, a good understanding with Russia has been for long a keynote of German diplomacy, and

Germany's union with the Dual Alliance in 1895 has a valid explanation in this. The result has been fortunate for Great Britain, who at least refrained from aiding Russia's aggression, though she did not attempt to stop it. Moreover the alliance which has now come about is a more natural one as being between two great sea Powers, with heavy commercial interests threatened seriously by the dissolution of China.

THE MANCHURIAN CONVENTION.

The following is a translation in English of the text of the above convention:—

His Majesty the Emperor and Ruler of all the Russias and H. M. the Emperor of China, with the object of re-establishing and consolidating the good neighbourly relations broken by the rising which took place in 1900 in the Celestial Empire, have named as Plenipotentiaries to establish an understanding on certain questions concerning Manchuria M. Paul Lessar and Prince Ching together with Wang Wen-shao, respectively. The above Plenipotentiaries furnished with full powers which have been found sufficient, have agreed to the following stipulations:—

I.—H.M. the Emperor of all the Russias being desirous of giving a new proof of his love of peace and of his sentiments of friendship towards H.M. the Emperor of China in spite of the fact that it was at different points of the Manchurian frontier that the first attacks against the peaceable Russian population were made, consents to the re-establishment of authority by the Chinese Government in the aforesaid Province, which remains an integral part of the Empire of China, and restores to the Chinese Government the right to exercise governmental and administrative powers as they were before the occupation by the Russian troops.

II.—In taking possession of the governmental and administrative rights in Manchuria, the Chinese Government accepts equally with all the other articles (of this agreement) the obligation to observe strictly the stipulation of the contract with the Russo-Chinese Bank of 27th August, 1896, and according to Article No. 5 of the said contract assumes the obligations to protect by every possible means the railway and its staff, and is equally obliged to safeguard in Manchuria the security of all Russian subjects in general who may be there, and all enterprises undertaken by them. The Russian Government in view of this obligation assumed by the Government of H.M. the Emperor of China consents on its side in the case of there being no troubles whatever and if the action of the other Powers permits, to gradually withdraw all its troops from Manchuria as follows:—

- (a) To withdraw in the course of six months after the signature of this Convention the Russian troops from the S.W. portion of the province of Mukden as far as the Liao River, and to restore the railway to China.
- (b) To withdraw during the course of the following six months the Imperial Russian troops from the remaining part of the province of Mukden and from the province of Kirin; and—
- (c) To withdraw during the following six months the remainder of the Russian troops who are in the province of Hei lung-kiang.

III.—In view of the necessity to avoid for the future the repetition of the troubles of 1900 in which the Chinese troops stationed in the Province on the borders of Russia took part, the Russian Government and the Chinese Government undertake to instruct the Russian military authorities and the *Dsian-dziuns* to make an arrangement with a view to fix the number and to determine the stations of the Chinese troops in Manchuria as well as the Russian troops which have not been withdrawn; the Chinese Government undertakes besides not to raise any other troops above the number determined in this way by the Russian military authorities and *Dsian-dziuns*, which ought to be sufficient to exterminate the brigands and to pacify the country.

After the complete evacuation of the Russian troops the Chinese Government will have the right to vary the number of troops in Manchuria and to augment or reduce them by informing beforehand the Imperial Government

because it is self-evident that the maintenance of troops in the aforesaid province in superfluous numbers will inevitably lead to the reinforcement of the Russian military forces in the neighbouring district, and will also result in increased military expenses to the great disadvantage of the two States.

For the police service and for the maintenance of order in this region outside the territory ceded to the "Société du Chemin-de-fer Chinois de l'Est" there will be formed by the local Governors and *Dsian-dziuns*, a Chinese gendarmerie mounted and unmounted, composed exclusively of the subjects of H.M. the Emperor of China.

IV.—The Russian Government consents to restore to the Chinese Government the Railway lines of Shanhaikwan, Yingkow, Sinminting occupied and protected by the Russian troops since the end of the month of September, 1900, in consideration of which the Chinese Government undertakes:—

1. That in the case of it being necessary to assure the security of the aforesaid lines the Chinese Government will undertake this itself and will not invite any other Power to undertake or participate in the defence, construction, or exploitation of these lines, and will not permit the foreign Powers to occupy the territory restored by Russia.
2. That the above-mentioned railway lines will be completed and exploited on the precise basis, both of the arrangement between Russia and Great Britain dated 16th April, 1899, and of the contract undertaken on the 26th September, 1898, with a certain Company relative to a loan for the construction of the aforesaid lines and besides to observe the obligations assumed by this Company especially not to take possession of the line Shanhaikwan, Yingkow, Sinminting, nor to dispose of it in any possible way.
3. That if eventually the continuation of the railway lines in the south of Manchuria is proceeded with or the construction of branch lines towards these as well as the construction of a bridge at Yingkow for transferring the terminus of the Railway at Shanhaikwan where it now is, this shall be done according to an undertaking between the Governments of Russia and China.
4. That as the expenses incurred by Russia for the re-establishment and exploitation of the restored railway lines of Shanhaikwan, Yingkow and Sinminting have not been included in the total sum of the indemnity, they will be repaid by the Chinese Government. The two Governments will come to an understanding as to the amounts to be reimbursed.

The tenor of all previous treaties between Russia and China not modified by the present Convention remains in full force.

The present Convention will have legal force corresponding from the day of signature by the Plenipotentiaries of both contracting Powers.

The exchange of the ratification will take place at St Petersburg three months from the day of the signature of the Convention.

In view of which the respective Plenipotentiaries of the two high contracting Powers have signed and sealed with their seals two copies of the present Convention in the Russian, Chinese and French languages.

The French text shall rule.

(Signed.) LESSAR,
CHING.

WANG WEN-SHAO.

Peking, 8th April, 1902.

In his report for the week ended April 27 on the prevalence of infectious disease in Shanghai, Dr. Stanley, Health Officer, says:—The Settlement remains remarkably free from infectious disease other than scarlet fever and the diminution of this disease continues; there being but one case, but this a fatal one, notified among the foreign population during the past week. There are seven cases of scarlet fever in the Victoria Nursing Home and mostly recovered cases, so that it should soon be possible to convert the Home to its original uses. Among the Chinese population there are also signs of diminution of scarlet fever, the number of deaths occurring from this cause during the last six weeks being 82, 30, 30, 55, 52, and 45, respectively.

THE WATER-SUPPLY.

A correspondent lately wrote suggesting that the difficulties of the water-supply, which are so painfully evident at the present time, might be overcome by the establishment of a system of condensation of sea-water. It is certainly rather curious, when one looks into it, that Hongkong should suffer from a lack of water when it has the sea on every side. But the suggestion was rather that the supplementary supply such as is at present being brought from the mainland in lighters and dispensed on the Praya could be better provided by means of a condensing system. Enquiry among some of those well qualified to speak on such a matter brings out a pretty general expression of doubt as to the feasibility of such a scheme. Its cost at once puts it out of court. The production of 450,000 gallons—the daily output of the Praya tanks—would entail an immense outlay of money in the way of the erection of works and the installation of special plant, and, of course, a system of this kind would have to possess greater producing powers than the present supplementary supply represents; probably 1,000,000 gallons a day would be aimed at. It is hardly necessary to point out the objections to this method of dealing with the crying evil. A great first cost would be involved; the machinery would be required during only a part of the year—perhaps not at all in some years—and would consequently "eat its head off," as the stableman says of an idle hack; and, most important of all, the system could not be wrought so cheaply as the present one, cumbersome as it is. The supplying of a city with condensed sea-water for domestic purposes has not, we believe, been seriously contemplated in the past anywhere. There is one recorded instance, however, of large use being made of condensed water. That was in Ismailia during the Egyptian campaign; there the water was brackish and it was condensed for the consumption of the army. The condensing system is of course in vogue on steam vessels but there is nothing else possible for them. In Hongkong things are different. The curative measures suggested by commonsense are simply an increase of the storage-capacity. There is a feeling abroad that any scheme of extension of the water-works should be to some extent governed by the suggested project of throwing a bridge across the Harbour by which water could be led from the mainland. But it has to be remembered that this bridge, however commendable it be, is still a mere scheme, and that the water-famine is with us. No time should be lost in increasing the capacity of the reservoirs.

THE HEALTH OF HONGKONG.

Five more plague cases were reported during the period of two days which ended at noon on the 5th inst. All were Chinese and 4 died, 2 being found dead. Since then 11 fresh Chinese cases have been reported and 9 deaths. The year's cases now number 64, with 58 deaths. Only 7 of the cases and 6 of the deaths are non-Chinese, being from the class of "Other Asiatics."

The return of cases of communicable disease last week is as follows:—Plague, 28 cases (1 Portuguese, 1 Indian, 26 Chinese), 26 deaths; cholera, 37 cases (1 European, 4 Japanese, 32 Chinese), 32 deaths; enteric fever, 1 case (Indian); small-pox, 4 cases (1 American, 3 Chinese), 3 deaths.

Detective-Sergeant O'Sullivan had a strange experience in a Chinese boarding-house at 25, Wing Kat Street, on Thursday morning. He went to the place to execute a warrant against a native whom he knew to be living there, but on entering the house he found only three men, none of whom was the man wanted. In the middle of the floor was a large basket, and being well acquainted with the tricks of the Chinese, Detective O'Sullivan ordered the men to open the basket. This order, after some show of reluctance, was executed, revealing the dead body of a Chinaman inside, supposed to be that of the man wanted. The body was doubled up in its narrow receptacle, and as

everything pointed to a scheme for "dumping" the remains of otherwise unlawfully disposing of them, the three men in the house were detained by the police while the sanitary authorities were communicated with and the corpse removed to the mortuary. The cause of death, it appears from yesterday's return, was plague.

DR. P. T. MANSON'S FUNERAL.

On the evening of the 5th inst. the remains of Dr. Patrick Thurburn Manson, eldest son of Dr. Patrick Manson, C.M.G., Medical Adviser to the Colonial Office, were laid to rest in the Happy Valley Cemetery in the same grave in which was buried a younger son of Dr. Manson who died here in 1887.

The immediate mourners were Sir Francis Lovell, C.M.G., and Professor Simpson, representing the Tropical School of Medicine, Drs. Hartigan and Rennie, partners of the firm to which Dr. Manson formerly belonged, and Drs. Atkinson and Laing, both of whom were personally acquainted with the deceased. The Rev. T. W. Pearce read the service, the first part being held in the mortuary chapel. The body was borne to the grave from the chapel by eight of the members of the European Police Force.

Amongst those present were:—Sir Thomas Jackson, His Honour A. G. Wise, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Drs. Harston, Clark, and Gibson, Messrs. T. F. Cocker, H. N. Mody, B. Layton, W. H. Ray, J. H. Cox, D. R. Law, H. W. Robertson, G. A. Caldwell, F. Maitland (Messrs. Linstead & Davis), and many other old residents.

Wreaths and crosses were sent by the following:—Major-General Sir Wm. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., Mr. and Mrs. Wise, Mr. T. E. Cocker, Dr. and Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. and Mrs. F. Maitland, Dr. Noble, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Gordon, Madame Rieco, Mr. and Mrs. G. Geier, Mr. H. N. Mody, Mr. and Mrs. Layton, Dr. and Mrs. Hartigan, Dr. and Mrs. Laing, Dr. L. P. Marques, Mr. and Mrs. Bell-Irving, Dr. and Mrs. Stedman, and Mr. Morehead. There were also a number of wreaths which had no card attached.

"KAIFONG" STOWAWAY CASE.

Before Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Magistracy on Monday, the 5th inst., 134 coolies were charged with surreptitiously obtaining passages to Cebu by the steamer *Kaifong* on the fifth of last month. As reported in the Manila papers at the time, it appeared as though the entire batch were unearthed through the sole agency of the Customs authorities at Cebu, and remarks were made in the Manila Press regarding the improbability of their getting on board without the knowledge of the ship's officers and crew; but from the proceedings before his Worship yesterday it has been established that the men were not discovered by the Cebu authorities, but by the officers of the *Kaifong* themselves during the voyage hence to Cebu, where on arrival the steamer was placed under a bond of \$70,000 gold to return the stowaways to Hongkong, a bond that has now been discharged. As to the complicity of the crew in the affair, that has to a certain extent been verified by the arrest under a warrant of the No. 1 comprador of the ship and the entire Chinese crew of 91 natives who will be brought up and probably charged to-day; the assistant ship's compadore is also under arrest.

As was only to be expected, the task of looking after so many prisoners was no light one, but the police authorities made all arrangements necessary to meet the exigencies of the case, and the whole 134 prisoners were lodged in cells at the Central, nearly a score to each cell, without the slightest hitch or semblance of trouble. The *Kaifong* arrived in harbour about ten o'clock on Sunday morning, and was boarded by Inspector Riley, of the Water Police, who brought with him a tug towing a lighter for the reception of the stowaways. These were quickly disembarked and taken to Tsimshatsui Station, where they were charged and afterwards taken back to the lighter, which was moored off the wharf at Tsimshatsui. An armed guard of Indians had been sent from the Central, and these patrolled the lighter all night; in addition, a boat belonging to the Water Police

circled the lighter repeatedly during the night to prevent any attempt at escape. In the morning the defendants were conveyed across the harbour to Bank Wharf, at the foot of Pottenger Street, and, still carefully guarded, marched to the Central Police Station and ultimately placed in the dock.

Mr. J. Hays, who represented the owners of the *Kaifong*, Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, said the case was very similar to one which was before his Worship last week. The facts were, briefly, that the steamship *Kaifong*, under command of Captain Pennefather, left Hongkong, on 5th April last, bound for Cebu. On the night before leaving Hongkong, the captain gave the order that no sampans or strange boats were to be permitted alongside, and that no Chinese were to be allowed to come on board. Inquiries were made next morning as to whether this order had been attended to, and the reply was in the affirmative. Prior to leaving Hongkong the ship was searched, but nothing was seen to excite suspicion. An officer reported that he saw some men who did not belong to the crew, and they were found to be "friends" of some of the native members of the crew. They were, however, ordered off the ship straight away, and went ashore in sampans. The new process of disinfection was then gone through and the ship was visited by the Medical Officer of Health for the Port. The ship left at 2.30 p.m., the captain and officers being absolutely ignorant of any others than the passengers and the usual crew being on board. Next day, the captain had occasion to examine one of the water tanks, and found some of the stowaways. Mr. Hays submitted to the Court a plan showing where the various cargo was stored for Manila and Cebu, and also where the different batches of stowaways were found. His Worship, he said, would see from it that the stowaways were in such positions that it would be impossible from the usual search of the ship and without shifting the cargo to notice them until they had been at sea for some time. The first batch was found by the water tank forward. Some more were found between-decks, and the last batch was found in rather bad condition after the ship had anchored at Cebu. The current of air caused by the ship's motion had ceased, and it was on account of their putting their heads through the port-holes to get air that they were noticed and the discovery of the cargo of stowaways completed.

Captain Pennefather was called and stated in evidence that the *Kaifong* left Hongkong at 2.30 p.m. on 5th April last for Cebu, whither she carried a general cargo and twenty saloon passengers. Before the vessel left the harbour the customary search was made, and stowaways were found on board in the holds; they were sent ashore in sampans. The vessel was searched again after that, in all three times before she finally sailed. Witness on the following day heard voices coming from between-decks, and on a search being made three men were discovered. As the result of further searches 29 coolies were found in the coal-bunkers on the 9th, 22 on the 10th, 47 on the 11th, and 43 on the 12th. The vessel was not under charter on that voyage, and the defendants were on board without permission.

This concluded Captain Pennefather's evidence, and his Worship remarked that there was no need for corroboration, as he was satisfied the defendants had stowed themselves on board the steamer without permission.

The statements of the defendants were then taken, the process occupying the greater part of an hour. These statements were confined to two forms—"I went on by mistake" and "I have nothing to say." When his Worship had reached the 108th defendant, Mr. E. J. Grist arrived and said that he had just previously been instructed to appear for the defendants.

An adjournment of a quarter of an hour was made to allow Mr. Grist to interview his clients, and on the Court resuming he pointed out to his Worship that the defendants were not the real culprits, and instanced a case which came up recently when the defendants asserted that they had been put on board by someone.

His Worship—Yes, they had an opportunity of disclosing the firm on that occasion, but refused to do so, and I inflicted a heavy punishment on that account.

Mr. Grist—As far as I understand from what I have been able to learn from the defendants,

the person who engineered the affair was a barber. The defendants are collected from different districts in the country and are brought down here, so that it is not one firm—well, it is one firm really, but there are several individuals concerned, and the thing would be to find these people. Those of the defendants to whom I have been able to talk say they are not in a position to find those persons here, but that they might come across them in the country.

His Worship—Most of the defendants are Fokkien people?

Mr. Grist—All except six, and they are Punti with practically no intelligence. The Fokkien have no intelligence at all; they are mere animals, and although they are sinners they are not the real sinners in the case.

His Worship—Yes, but as I say, in the last case the defendants made a statement with reference to a certain firm, and at the last moment refused to assist the police in any way by disclosing the name, and of course I inflicted a very heavy penalty—I think \$250—because of that refusal.

Mr. Hays pressed for an exemplary sentence, as the responsibility on the captain of a ship was a very heavy one, and the defendants could not have been entirely ignorant of what they were doing.

His Worship—I am quite certain they knew. They always give the stock defence that they got on board the steamer by mistake.

Mr. Grist—It is very possible that some of them do know, but at the same time I have not the smallest doubt in the world that to punish them very heavily will not put a stop to the traffic.

His Worship—I fine each defendant \$150, or two months' hard labour.

The fines aggregate over two thousand pounds. Amongst the defendants' belongings was a basket containing over two hundred silver dollars, part of \$400 which was sent on board to them at Cebu. This latter fact seems to point to the existence of an organized and extensive agency for the prosecution of this form of slavery.

On Tuesday, 42 of the crew of the *Kaifong*, including the No. 1 comprador, were charged with aiding and abetting the 134 coolies who were on the previous day fined \$150 each to obtain passages from Hongkong to Cebu without the consent of the owners, consignees, or master of the steamer. It was the intention of the police to arrest the entire crew, all told, but 19 of them got a hint of this intention and cleared out, leaving unclaimed what was due to them in wages. The 42 who were brought up pleaded not guilty to the charge, but as the proceedings were merely formal no evidence was taken.

Mr. J. Hays, who represented the owners of the *Kaifong*, Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, asked for a remand, which his Worship granted till Wednesday, 14th inst., at ten o'clock, allowing bail in each case of \$500.

On hearing the amount of the bail, the boat-swain, an unusually tall, well-set-up Chinaman, who with the others had spent the night in gaol, called out in "pidgin" English that he would pay \$500 before he would go back to "that place" again.

The Russian government, the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* says, intends to considerably strengthen her Far Eastern fleet. The three torpedo boats *Forst*, *Sterliud*, *Ossetr*, built in Havre, are on the way to the East. In the course of the present year two battleships and seven cruisers are to follow. The cruiser *Novik* will leave for the East in May, the battleship *Retvizan* in June, the cruisers *Askold* and *Bogatyr* in July, the cruisers *Bojan*, *Diana*, and *B. garin* in August, and in the autumn probably the battleship *Pobieda* and the cruiser *Pallada*. All are most modern ships. The two battleships were launched in 1900 and are of 12,674 and 12,700 tons respectively, with complements of 730 men each. The *Bojan* is a protected first-class cruiser of 7,809 tons, launched in 1900, as are also the *Diana*, *Askold*, and *Bogatyr*; the last three are of 6,630, 6,000 and 6,300 tons, with complements of 422, 530 and 580 men, and the Russian Admiral in command in the East Asiatic sea will have a considerable number of men at his disposal.

THE BARNES COMPANY AT THE THEATRE ROYAL.

The Barnes 20th Century Entertainers and Biograph Company opened in the Theatre Royal on Thursday before a fairly large audience, which no doubt would have been bigger but for the heavy rains which set in that morning. It is always matter of regret when any untoward incident—climatic or otherwise—interferes with the first-night appearance of a theatrical company, but after having had an opportunity of sampling the vaudeville fare which the Barnes Company offers, one can only say that, however unpropitious may have been the conditions which had to be contended with on Thursday, the genuine excellence of the entertainment will be sure to induce general admiration and patronage. The Company left London two years ago on tour and have been heartily welcomed wherever appearing. After visiting the provinces, they went to South Africa, showing in the different cities, and occupying one theatre in Capetown for nine months. Thence, via Australia, they journeyed to Manila, where a most successful season of nearly ten weeks was enjoyed. Visits were also paid to Cebu, Iloilo, etc., and on all hands golden opinions were showered upon Mr. Barnes' show. That these were deserved was thoroughly endorsed by last night's audience. Of the many numbers which composed the programme it would be invidious almost to select and specially mention just a few, for all were good alike. Madame Agnes Freed, whom we had the pleasure of hearing in Hongkong not many months ago, made a welcome re-appearance in some of those songs which gained her so much popularity on the occasion of her former visit here. In the first number, "The Holy City," her rich and splendidly-trained voice was heard to perfection, and she was heartily encored and responded with "Just Suppose." Her other songs were equally successful. Miss Rosa Barnes, "America's Queen of Illustrated Song," showed herself to be an artiste of eminent abilities. Her various songs, including "My Georgia Rose," were illustrated by the biograph, with tasteful yet most striking effect, and as an encore she gave "Dolly Dray." Another picture-song, "Motherland," was given by Mr. W. T. Burgess, and he also contributed a clever patter ditty. Miss Florence Adelaide made a pretty appearance as "The Girl in the Khaki Dress" and sang charmingly "The Girl with the Twinkling Eye," for which she was encored. Mr. Jack Reynolds, the "rag-time" comedian, and the Brothers Francis with their comic business and local allusions, found their way into the good graces of the audience. In his original laughing song, Mr. Harry Gray was a great success and had to re-appear in reply to a peremptory encore. A most striking feature of the entertainment was the theatrophone performance. Of all the instruments of the phonograph kind adapted to the stage, this of Mr. Barnes's is the most wonderful. The audience could not have enough of it. It spun off songs, band music, etc., with precision and what is more seldom heard, with distinctness and without a jar, in a manner that has so far not been approached by any similar instrument exhibited in these parts. The performance concluded with a biograph display of an interesting nature. It remains to be added that the incidental music was supplied by Mr. Somers and the R.W.F. orchestra. The Barnes Company deserve to have a most successful season in Hongkong.

According to home papers, Captain Percy Scott, C.B., whose "dotter" has raised the possible standard of naval gunnery to a hitherto unexpected position, has, with the consent of the Admiralty, sold the patent to the United States Government. There have been rumours to this effect for some time, but now that the fact has been confirmed by official papers issued by the U.S. Government, no doubt any longer remains and its significance can be readily appreciated. The "dotter" is a simple mechanical contrivance by means of which it is as hard to miss the target as without the contrivance it is hard to hit it.

FIRES IN SHANGHAI SILK FACTORIES.

At 6.50 p.m. on the 30th ult., fire was discovered in a shed used for sorting cotton in the premises of Ewo Mill, Yangtzepoo. The manager and his staff having a good supply of water, soon put on five streams from their hydrant and a donkey pump, so that when the Fire Brigade arrived they found that their services were not required. The damage was confined to half the building, which was a wooden shed with a corrugated iron roof, and to a small quantity of cotton.

At 10.30 the same evening, the firemen were again called out, their services this time being required at the Kangping Silk Filature, which is situated on the north side of the Hongkew Creek, alongside the Yubang Road. Five streams of water from the hose-pipes were directed upon the fire, and some of them were afterwards double goose-necked, but all the exertions of the brigade were of no avail to save the building, which was in a blaze from end to end. The firemen succeeded in saving the boiler-house and boiler, and another building which had actually caught fire. The filature has been closed for some time, so that the cause of the fire is a mystery, but the lower part has been used as a godown, in which was stored a large quantity of wines. The firemen managed to save some of the contents, but the heat caused the casks to explode, and detonations were occurring all through the night and the yard was running with streams of ruby-coloured liquid. Towards two o'clock the conflagration, one of the greatest seen in Shanghai for some time, had to a great extent been got under control and some of the firemen were sent home. About four o'clock some more left, but the Hongkew men remained on till 6.45 a.m., by which time the fire was practically extinguished. The coolie crew, which had replaced the firemen, however, was still at work at ten o'clock next morning. During the whole night rain fell incessantly, so that the firemen worked under most disagreeable conditions, being both drenched and roasted. The damage is estimated at Tls. 360,000. The whole of the machinery of the filature is destroyed, and such a scene of devastation has very rarely been witnessed before in Shanghai.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 30th April.

RAISING THE INDEMNITY.

The people down South who had nothing at all to do with the late Boxer movement have, nevertheless, to contribute to the large indemnity which China has to pay to the foreign Powers. The provincial government at Canton demanded from Swatow a share amounting to \$300,000 per annum, but on account of the representations made the contribution has been reduced to \$150,000. To raise that sum it is said that *lekin* tax will be imposed on all goods, foreign and native alike. General Wong is here from Canton to arrange ways and means of collecting the *lekin*. I hear that several shops and stores dealing in foreign commodities have been visited by a *lekin* official and informed that they will have to pay *lekin* on goods imported in the near future, and the owners have been requested to call for that purpose at the *lekin* office. As according to general usage *lekin* is levied outside the Treaty port limits, it is to be hoped that the foreign Consuls will strongly protest against the imposition on foreign goods locally.

FAILURE OF RICE-CROPS.

Owing to the long-continued drought the rice-crops at Kitliyong, one of the principal rice-growing districts, have totally failed and the people there are compelled to purchase rice here. This eventuality has tended to advance the price of the staple food very considerably.

A CRITICAL AFFAIR.

Not so very long ago your Shanghai contemporaries reported in their columns the prosecution by the Taku Tug and Lighter Company of a compradore in their employ for systematic pilfering of cargo. The case will no doubt still be fresh in the memory, and your readers will be

surprised to know that an analogous state of affairs exists here, wherein, however, coolies are the sole perpetrators.

I learn that these thefts have been the indirect cause of rupture between the local Chinese merchants and the firm of Butterfield & Swire. It appears that the s.s. *Taitcheu* had a large cargo of rice from Hongkong, and with a view of accelerating her discharge, her agents, Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, had the steamer working at night. During that time about 30 *fokis* belonging to the various rice-shops went to the ship which was lying alongside the wharf, and on the plea that their master's cargo was being stolen hindered the coolies from discharging. Messrs. Butterfield's compradore was sent for, but he could not prevail upon the *fokis* to take their departure, and it came to an altercation between them. The result of it was that two of the men, the most recalcitrant, were given into custody on the charge of being thieves by the compradore. This action was resented by the rice-shop owners to such an extent that they convened a meeting of the Swatow guild, which was attended by about 70 merchants, who adopted the resolution to ship no goods by steamers consigned to Butterfield & Swire. Later on nearly 200 merchants joined the boycott against that firm, and wired to the principal northern ports to have no cargo shipped by the company's steamers. Though two *fokis* have already been liberated, the Swatow merchants, who are very clannish, will not resume business with Butterfield & Swire before receiving satisfaction. I hear that General Wong, who has an interest in the Nam Kee, sub-agents of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, is trying to settle things amicably.

Swatow, 2nd May.

THE LOSS OF THE "HOIMOON."

The s.s. *Hoimoon* of 300 tons burden, belonging to Messrs. Bismarck & Co. of Hongkong, left your port on Tuesday last at 11 a.m. She had a general cargo and coals, and was bound for Port Arthur. The day after departure it was noticed that the steamer was leaking badly in the fore-part. The weather becoming bad, the planks on the starboard side, owing to the heavy seas at the time, broke and a lot of water rushed into the forehold. That compartment containing a quantity of coal, the latter began to shift about. The captain then tried to make for this port, so as to effect the necessary repairs, but unfortunately could not succeed in his attempt, as the ship took a sudden list to port and started gradually to sink. Captain Kimme and Chief Engineer Gruneberg, along with six Chinese, took to one of the boats, and Chief Officer Fegebeutel and Second Engineer Sunkimat with 16 Chinese to another. The first boat had only been afloat a short while when it capsized and all its occupants were drowned. The second boat, after a most perilous voyage, managed to reach the coast to the south of Swatow, whence those on board came hither overland and on arrival here reported the accident to the German Consul. The steamer, which was fully insured, sank about six miles below Cape of Good Hope on the evening of the 30th ultimo. Those saved lost all their belongings and just escaped with the clothes they stood in.

The Brazilian Government has decided to establish a Consulate in Kobe, and Mr. Hoffmann, Belgian consul at that port has been appointed to act for it.

H.M.S. *Endymion* paid a visit on the 16th ult. to Kure, Japan, where no British ship had put in an appearance since the conclusion of the alliance. The *Endymion* steamed in with ship fully dressed. After the usual salutes, Captain Paget received a visit from the chief of the Kure Naval Staff and other Japanese officers, and subsequently from a party of the leading residents, who brought off two casks of *Masamunesake*, an ox, and a quantity of vegetables for the ship. Captain Paget then went ashore and called on Vice-Admiral Shibayama, the officer in command at the station. On the 17th the Vice-Admiral invited all the *Endymion's* officer and men to an entertainment on shore, which appears to have been a most hospitable affair. Captain Paget and his officers afterwards visited the arsenal, and on the 18th they proceeded on a picnic to the celebrated island, Itankuhima.

FOOCHOW.

The following items are from the *Foochow Echo* of the 26th ult.—

The following notification was issued by Mr. G. M. H. Playfair, H. B. M. Consul, on the 24th instant:—"The undersigned has been informed by the Chinese Authorities that the country in the neighbourhood of An-ch'i hsien in the prefecture of Chinchew is disturbed by brigandage. British subjects are, therefore, warned to avoid that locality until tranquillity has been restored."

Mr. E. B. Drew, of the Imperial Maritime Customs and recently arrived from America, has assumed charge as Commissioner at this port, in succession to Mr. Walter Lay who leaves in a few days on a well earned furlough.

Mr. G. T. Moule has arrived from Pakhoi, at which place he has been Acting Commissioner, and has proceeded to Santu as Acting Commissioner of Customs at that port.

Professor Davis, the clever illusionist, during his stay in Foochow had an unique experience, namely that of being invited to perform in the Yamen before H. E. Hsu Viceroy of the Min-Che Provinces. The performance was a great success in every way, the Viceroy expressing his hearty approval and presenting Mr. Davis with a handsomely carved ivory casket. After the performance the Professor was sent home to his hotel with a guard of soldiers in attendance.

The "Foochow Flower and Vegetable Show" held in the old "Wha-Kee" godown on the 22nd instant, proved successful and interesting.

PEKING

Peking, 23rd April.

RUMOURS IN PEKING.

The departure of the Court for the Eastern Tombs set many rumours going—rumours malignant and numerous. These became so persistent and rigid that it was necessary to take them into account. Some said there was danger and some there wasn't and then the

WISE MEN LOADED THEIR GUNS,

and made up their minds that rumours are in themselves sufficient to precipitate ruin and began to fortify against the consequences certain to arise from their persistence. If trouble is expected diligently long enough it is sure to come. It probably wasn't necessary to place a guard on the wall at the Chien Men and another at the Hata Men, as was done, or to double the patrols in the Legation quarter. Some of the ministers pook-pooked this and did other automatic things. To show how the wise were aroused, take the Roman Catholics, who ought to know a great deal about the sources of unrest and danger. The universal nature of the uneasiness persuaded Bishop Favier to investigate and he went down into the province. He was happily convinced by the quiet in the district of Cheug'infu, returned an optimist and now thinks there is

NO CAUSE FOR A' ARM.

The people construed the Court's pilgrimage to be a blind to the execution of some hidden purpose and began to say what that purpose was. As a review of the troops at the Hunting Park was advertised in the edicts some said a direct attack on the Legations would be made. The absurdity of this was matched by the assertions of Chinese in and about Peking that the foreigners had taken possession of the gates of the city and were going to precipitate trouble. The rest of the catalogue may be filled out at libitum with such as the following. The German Minister, who is on a tour to Jehol, started a day in advance of the Court in order to receive it at Tungling and have a private interview with Tzu Hsi; also, the reason for going to the Hunting Park was to

OUTST THE ITALIAN SECTION

of the railway guard from the Hunting Park buildings which are near to the railroad, etc., etc. [The Italians gave up the Hunting Park buildings in February or March.] The remaining and legitimate puzzle is the review of the troops which was announced, then denied. It is understood some general memorialised that the review be cancelled for fear it would be misinterpreted by the foreigners. Ex-city governor Huynfen advised against it to Yunglu on account of the rumours among the foreigners, recommending at the same time that the Court return to the Forbidden City at once to silence

invention and suspicion. Contrarily the Court says it will remain four days longer in the Park than it had intended and will not come into the hive for a week, no matter how much fuss is made. The military men expected to be invited to the review and entertained there, and it may turn out that after all this was the reason the

REVIEW WAS ABANDONED.

Not knowing how to explain it they are keeping close watch to see if it comes off clandestinely.

NO CHANGE IN THE ATTITUDE.

Of the people is noticeable. One might have thought from the amount of incense being burned at the Chien Men that a deal of supplication was being made to the god of the city or gate to keep it free. But traffic comes and goes and the stories have about run their course.

THINGS IN GENERAL.

Prince Su came in yesterday to burn incense. Early in the morning some high officials went out on the train to kowtow to the Empress Dowager in her temporary lodge. A delirious rain has been falling to-day and must for the time being mar the rural festivities of the Court but will scarcely last a week. At that time is set the marriage of Lun Peitsi to Yunglu's niece. This is the union that is, according to clarion rumour, to produce an heir to the throne.—*Mercury*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE WATER FAMINE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 5th May.

SIR,—The community should be grateful for the message from Headquarter House assuring us that the Government are maturing arrangements for an increased water supply. We do not see, however, any steps towards relieving the tremendous congestion in the neighbourhood of the three tanks on the Praya front, and as a layman I would suggest the erection of an iron tank, about 12 feet square by 4 feet high, supported by cast-iron columns or section columns. This tank should be at least 40 feet above level of ground and should be connected by a cast iron pipe with the underground main water-pipe. A force pump to be placed on level of ground for pumping from water-boats into this tank, whence the water will run to the main-pipe. By this means the houses in the Praya, Des Vaux Road and Queen's Road Central would then be able to obtain water from their own taps. This I say would greatly reduce the congestion at the present tanks, as the residents in these three streets constitute the larger portion of those who now crowd to the tanks for water, while it would enable the people in the higher levels to obtain a couple of buckets in much less time than hitherto. The fire-engines should be utilised to work the pump and a few hours daily should suffice to give a fair supply of water. In case of fire, water can be turned on at a moment's notice from the fire-engines or from the hydrants, and this alone would commend my plan to the insurance companies. The whole cost would not amount to much, and the only item of importance is the running expenses, and that certainly will not be high. If it is advisable, the tank might be placed on the roof of the Central Market which of course would have to be strengthened for this purpose. What do your readers think of this?—Yours, etc.,

ENGINE.

THE PRICE OF FOOD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 2nd May.

SIR,—May I be permitted through the medium of your columns to ask His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government to take steps to reduce the high rental of stalls to which stall-holders in the central and other markets of this Colony are being subjected? To this cause, chiefly, is to be attributed the ruinous prices exacted by them (I use the word designedly) for meat, fish, vegetables, etc. It must be patent to anybody that these enhanced prices make an enormous difference to the poorer classes

and serve to place beyond their reach food of a good and substantial quality, and the want of such food serves very often as an important factor in the propagation of plague and other kindred diseases. I trust I will not have made this appeal to His Excellency in vain, for I am sure he has the welfare of the people at heart, and I trust he will see his way to bring about a speedy and necessary reform in the matter.—Yours, etc.,

P.

BRIGHTER PROSPECTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 3rd May.

SIR,—The letter which you published from "Old Resident" on the 30th ult., was indeed a gloomy forecast. Going back with him, his meaning I take to be that, since the advent of Asiatics in the Legislature of this Colony, a handful of rich men have steadily managed to grow very much richer, and the process of their so doing has simply piled up the foreshore of this City of Victoria with the diseased offal of China's neighbouring provinces. If you do not believe it, Mr. Editor, take a ricksha and go and see for yourself. And, among the tens of thousands of the human species you will pass in your ride, there will scarcely be found one individual, either in appearance or build, that can pass muster as a thoroughly healthy specimen. The fact remains, as I explained in my letter to your evening contemporary under the heading of "A Warning Note," now some two years ago, there are so many of these people that it is impossible for them to get sufficient in the shape of nourishing food to support a physique capable of withstanding the inroads of disease incident to a weak vitality. Thus, you have the present condition of this prosperous Colony. I am of opinion that prosperity, after all, does not consist in riches so much as in a sound and healthy constitution throughout the population. This Hongkong has not. I did not intend to trespass so far, but, as "Old Resident" suggests, the clouds do seem to be gradually lifting, and let us hope that a more unselfish, more public-spirited administration will follow.

SPECTATOR.

THE CORONATION CELEBRATION

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 4th May.

SIR,—In a quiet moment of sleeplessness last night I began to think of the Coronation celebration here, and if not too late let me urge upon the Committee the desirability of limiting the subscription list to Britishers and British subjects. Fancy soliciting donations from Tom, Dick, and Harry to celebrate the Coronation of our King! The thought is monstrous when carefully considered. An action is tantamount to a confession of our unwillingness to provide the wherewithal to honour fittingly our monarch on a celebrated day in his life and the nation's history. Is it dignified to obtain money for this purpose from aliens representing European peoples who, to say the least, have not been overpolite to us or our Royal house during the past two or three years? I think it is the duty of the Government to provide from their large surplus of public funds whatever balance is necessary after the Coronation Committee has collected from loyal Britishers and British subjects what they can afford to subscribe. Subscriptions should not be limited in amount or the "widow's mite" refused. The "strangers within our gates" should be invited by public announcement of the Committee to attend the various functions as our guests. In this way we shall honour our King and ourselves by not losing our self respect.—Yours, &c.,

LEX.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 7th May.

SIR,—I hope I shall not be considered lacking in loyalty if I suggest that, as the committee appointed to administer the Diamond Jubilee Fund of \$124,000 have refrained from affording the public any explanation of their administration up to date, the public decline to contribute towards any Coronation celebration until some such statement is forthcoming. No one for a moment doubts the

integrity of the committee; but subscribers after an interval of nearly four years have the right to ask what are the tangible results of the duties the committee voluntarily undertook. Until the committee will condescend to furnish that information, I for one shall decline to respond to the call shortly to be made.—Yours, etc.,

RESIDENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 8th May.

Now that the subscription lists for the above have been opened, I beg to remind directors and general managers of the various Hongkong public companies that it is illegal for them to devote any portion of the shareholders' money to purposes other than are reasonably incidental to the carrying on of the business of the companies they represent.—Yours, etc.,

SHAREHOLDER.

SUPREME COURT.

Tuesday, 6th May.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN
(CHIEF JUSTICE) AND HIS HONOUR T.
SERCOMBE SMITH (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

WONG SAU T. YEUNG TSOI.

This was a motion for leave to appeal against the decision of the Acting Puisne Judge in an action brought in Summary Jurisdiction and heard on 23rd and 30th May, the plaintiff claiming from the defendant the sum of \$425.30 for work done on the military road at Green Mount, near Pine Wood Battery. After trial—the plaintiff appearing in person, and Mr. O. D. Thomson, solicitor, for the plaintiff—the Acting Puisne Judge gave his decision in favour of the plaintiff. Against that decision the defendant wished to appeal in point of fact. Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. O. D. Thomson, solicitor), appeared for the appellant.

Mr. Slade stated that the appellant did not dispute that the work was done or as to how much was done, but as to the rate at which, under contract, the work was to be paid for. The plaintiff contracted to build a certain length of road. He had not finished that length of road but had completed by far the greater part of it and claimed considerably more than he could possibly have received if the whole of the work had been done, and that claim had been allowed. It was not disputed that the work alleged to have been done was done, but it was disputed that the amount of feet of the road built should be turned into cube measurement and paid for at the same rate as was provided in the contract for lineal measurement of the completed roadway.

The Acting Puisne Judge said that that had never been disputed before him.

The Chief Justice asked why the defendant did not point out the errors in the statement of the claim when the matter was before the lower Court?

Mr. Slade replied that it was thought by the defendant's solicitor that he had said something of the same kind. There was no question but on the rate at which the work was to be paid for under contract. His client was perfectly willing to pay the full price for that work. But the plaintiff after contracting to do the work at a certain rate added so much for foundations, stone-wall, this and the other thing.

The Chief Justice remarked that a contract was a contract. A stone-wall did not mean a road. If a man said a contract was to be for a certain extent of stone-wall, that was not taken to mean a stone-wall with earth, rubble and everything necessary to make a road.

Mr. Slade asked his Lordship to take the evidence of witnesses, who stated that a given extent of stone-wall meant that extent of road. It might be incorrect to use the phrase thus, but they thought it was right.

The Chief Justice said the matter might be referred to a practical man to go down and measure the work on the spot.

Mr. Slade pointed out that the work done

was admitted. The only question was as to the rate.

The Chief Justice asked how it was that if "stone-wall" meant everything included in a road under the contract, it did not mean the same thing under "extras."

Mr. Slade explained that where the work was of a special character—where ravines had to be bridged and deep cuttings made—a special payment was made.

The Chief Justice went on to state that it seemed absurd that the time of the Full Court had to be taken up in a case of this kind: was there no way of getting the thing settled by getting somebody to go down, and have the place measured?

Mr. Slade said he was perfectly willing to leave the case in the hands of anybody the Court liked to name.

The Chief Justice remarked that he would have to hear the plaintiff first, of course. He could get plaintiff or his solicitor to see him in chambers and find out whether he was willing to have an impartial expert to adjudicate as to what amount ought to be paid.

Mr. Slade expressed his entire agreement with that view.

The Chief Justice added that the question was simply one for a practical man. The question of costs would have to be reserved.

The Acting Puisne Judge stated his concurrence; he had adjourned the case originally for a week in order to get evidence but could not get it.

The Chief Justice said he would make an order that the matter be referred to such and such an arbiter. The main difficulty was as to what was the meaning of "stone-wall." Possibly that might be a stumbling-block in the way of any man who went down. But there was no doubt that that was the only practical way of settling the matter. For counsel to come up and argue for perhaps two days would be an absolute waste of the time of the Court. He would see both parties in chambers, and if they told him they were willing to have the matter referred to somebody an order would be made to that effect. If the plaintiff was willing to admit that "stone-wall" meant "road," then the thing was simple enough. If he did not, the Court had all the circumstances before them and the question was only one of law.

Mr. Slade agreed to that.

The Chief Justice stated that he thought he would say—Application adjourned *sine die*; the plaintiff and the defendant or solicitors see me in chambers, state whether they agree to impartial expert measuring up and valuing on the basis of the contract and admitted figures and reporting to the Court how much ought to be paid by defendant to plaintiff; stay execution for a fortnight.

Mr. Slade stated that he was informed that execution had that morning been taken out against the defendant in the case, and that he had given security for \$4,500.

The Chief Justice added that he would stay the execution for a fortnight and order that the money be paid into Court. Of course, the method which had been adopted was rather unusual, but it seemed to him that otherwise there would be two days of the Full Court taken up, and probably at the end of that time they would not be much further forward than at that moment. If the expert reported that a certain sum was due then there would not be need for further appeal. Of course, if the plaintiff admitted that he regarded a "stone-wall" as a "road," the thing was simple enough. But supposing he said "No; I meant so much for a lineal stone-wall," that would be a different matter.

Mr. Slade remarked that then the Court would have to go outside the contract.

The Acting Puisne Judge having expressed his concurrence,

The Court adjourned *sine die*.

It is reported in mandarin circles in Shanghai that Viceroy Chang Chih-tung at first strongly objected to the establishment throughout China of a uniform coinage system, as suggested by Sir James Mackay, but that now he has changed his intention and sent a telegram to the Chinese Commissioners at Shanghai to the effect that the plan seems to him to be a good one and may be carried into practice.

SHANGHAI RACES—SPRING MEETING.

Shanghai, 6th May.

SUBSCRIPTION GRIFFIN PLATE.

Messrs. Barley & Pickwick's Teetotum	1
Mr. Ernest's King Edward	2
Mr. Tuff-Tuff's Tenor	3

Time, 1.35.

CRITERION STAKES.

Mr. Duplex's The Dealer	1
Mr. John Peel's Set	2
Mr. G. H. Potts's Desert King	3

Time, 2.6 1-5th.

GRIFFIN'S PLATE.

Mr. Ralph's Zeus	1
Messrs. Gilbert & Strangway's Windrush	2
Mr. Fernando's Lochgoil	3

Time, 1.3 3-5ths.

CATHAY CUP.

Mr. Toeg's Rio Grande	1
Mr. Bronson's F.K.	2
Mr. Jay's Grandee	3

Time, 3.16 1/5.

AUSTRALIAN PLATE (Walers).

Mr. Wingard's Wahine	1
Mr. Black's Advance	2
Mr. John Peel's Golden Bell	3

Time, 1.50.

HART LEGACY CUP.

Mr. Jay's Disgrace	1
Mr. G. H. Potts's Moriturus	2
Mr. Buxey's Carnation Rose	3

Time, 57 4/5.

KIANGSU CUP.

Mr. G. H. Potts's Pandur	1
Mr. Jay's Frivolity	2
Mr. Rodet's Chessy	3

Time, —

SHANGHAI GOLD CHALLENGE CUP.

Mr. Barley's His Excellency	Dead
Messrs. Robson & Common's Discord	heat
Mr. Gore-Booth's Manchu	3

Time, 2.41 1/2.

CHIELI CUP.

Mr. Ernest's King Edward	1
Mr. Carlill's Pioneer	2
Mr. Harcourt's De Wet	3

Time, 2.10 1/2.

GRAND STAND STAKES.

Mr. Hopeful's Tarakoal	1
Mr. H. Bush's Algerine	2
Mr. Cleugh's The Titan	3

Time, 2.6 1/2.

Shanghai, 7th May.

CHU-KA-ZA CUP.

Mr. John Peel's Set	1
Mr. G. H. Potts's Desert King	2
Mr. Jay's Disgrace	3

Time, 1.30 4/5.

SHANGHAI DERBY.

Mr. Hopeful's Tarakoal	1
Mr. Donnachie's Grey Dawn	2
Mr. Toeg's Windrush	3

Time, 3.14 4/5.

MONGOLIAN PLATE.

Mr. Ernest's King Edward	1
Mr. Tuff-Tuff's Tenor	2
Mr. Carlill's Pioneer	3

Time, 2.45 3/5.

RACE CLUB CUP.

Mr. Rodet's Chessy	1
Mr. G. H. Potts's Pandur	2
Mr. Toeg's Conbn	3

Time, 4.28 3/5.

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY CUP.

Mr. Jay's Grandee	1
Mr. John Peel's Set	2
Mr. Bronson's F.K.	3

Time, 2.41 2/5.

FEDERATION STAKES (Walers).

Mr. Wingard's Wahine	1
Mr. Black's Advance	2
Mr. John Peel's Golden Bell	3

Time, 2.19 2/5.

IMPERIAL CUP.

Mr. G. H. Potts's Rebel King	1
Mr. Toeg's Windrush	2
Mr. Toeg's Yarrow	3

SHANGHAI STAKES.

Mr. Duplex's The Dealer	1
Mr. Toeg's Rio Grande	2
Mr. Donnachie's Grey Dawn	3

SPRING CUP.

The Great Llama's Glamour	1
Mr. Jay's Frivolity	2
Mr. Toeg's Elbe	3

SOURRY STAKES.

Mr. H. Bush's <i>Algerine</i>	1
Mr. Toeg's <i>Torridge</i>	2
Mr. Clough's <i>The Miner</i>	3
Time, 1.48 2/5. Record.	

Shanghai, 8th May.

GREAT NORTHERN PLATE.

Mr. G. H. Potts's <i>Desert King</i>	1
Mr. John Peel's <i>Set</i>	2
Mr. Crawford's <i>Esperance</i>	3
Time, 1.48 1/5 [Record].	

RACE CLUB CHALLENGE CUP.

Mr. Glenday's <i>Clansman</i>	1
Messrs. Robson & Common's <i>Discord</i>	2
Mr. Hopeful's <i>Style</i>	3
Time, 2.42	

SHANTUNG STAKES.

Messrs. Barley & Pickwick's <i>Teetotum</i>	1
Mr. Ernest's <i>King Edward</i>	2
Mr. Harcourt's <i>De Wet</i>	3
Time, 2.11	

PARI-MUTUEL STAKES.

Mr. Toeg's <i>Rio Grande</i>	1
Mr. Bronson's <i>F.K.</i>	2
Mr. G. H. Potts's <i>Pandur</i>	3
Time, 3.21 4/5.	

YANGTSE CUP.

Mr. G. H. Potts's <i>Desert King</i>	1
Mr. Ring's <i>Amphion</i>	2
Mr. Jimdick's <i>Kenzie</i>	3
Time, 2.5 3/5.	

MANCHU STAKES.

Messrs. Middy and Vine's <i>Coronation</i>	1
Mr. Waverley's <i>Sirocco</i>	2
Messrs. Robson and Common's <i>Carnival</i>	3
Time, 2.42 2/5.	

CONSOLATION CUP.

Mr. Barley's <i>His Majesty</i>	1
Mr. Hopeful's <i>Style</i>	2
Mr. Crawford's <i>Esperance</i>	3

NIL DESPERANDUM CUP.

Mr. Fernando's <i>Loch Slapin</i>	1
Mr. Harcourt's <i>De Wet</i>	2
Mr. Carlill's <i>Pioneer</i>	3

CHAMPION SWEEPSTAKES.

Mr. Duplex's <i>The Dealer</i>	1
Mr. Barley's <i>His Excellency</i>	2
Mr. Toeg's <i>Rio Grande</i>	3
Time, 2.38 2/5	

LAWN-TENNIS.

The final for the Championship of the Hongkong Cricket Club was played on the Club ground on the 3rd inst. The weather was anything but favourable, a drizzling rain falling most of the time, but in spite of that fact there was a very fair attendance of spectators, who watched the match with keen interest and heartily applauded the competitors whenever there was a particularly good bit of play. It was very gratifying to see so many ladies present, especially as at no time during the match could it be watched with any degree of comfort, and great credit is due to them for their pluck in turning out on such a day. Punctually at 4.30 the two competitors commenced their struggle for the coveted title of Champion. Pontifex won the toss and Humphreys began to serve from the Queen's Road end. Play was very even from the start, and, though perhaps not quite up to the usual standard of Championship form, was always interesting and keen. Humphreys won the first set by 6-4, taking the first, second, fifth, eighth, ninth and tenth games. Pontifex had his revenge in the second set, winning it by 7-5 and taking the first, fourth, sixth, seventh, tenth, eleventh and twelfth games. Humphreys again assumed the lead by winning the third set by 7-5, securing the third, fourth, sixth, seventh, ninth, eleventh and twelfth games. At this time the rain was falling steadily and the light was very bad, but the players decided to go on. The ground, too, had become very slippery and Pontifex, who was wearing shoes with spikes in them, seemed to have the advantage. However, having two sets to one in his favour, Humphreys was determined to "do or die," and, by dint of sheer steadiness and by risking nothing, he managed to pull off the fourth set and so won the match by 3 sets to one. In the last set, which he won by 7-5, Humphreys took the first, fourth, fifth, seventh, ninth, eleventh and twelfth games. Great praise is due to him for his well-earned victory, and that

the spectators considered it well-earned was shown by the hearty applause they bestowed on him at the conclusion of the match. Humphreys has learned all his tennis in Hongkong and has had no opportunity of watching or playing with really first-class men; all the more credit is therefore due to him for his skill and perseverance. There are some who foretold three years ago, when Humphreys was still in the "B" Class, that he would probably attain to Championship honours, and it must be satisfactory to them now to know that their good opinion of his powers was not misjudged. At the same time, while giving him all possible credit for his success, it must not be overlooked that Pontifex played a sound and keen game, and his placing at times was quite up to first-class form. Mr. Sercombe Smith was a very impartial and capable umpire. After the finish of the Championship match, the prizes for all the events of the Tournament were given away by Mrs. Atkinson.

Mr. F. MAITLAND, the President of the Club, in a brief speech, referred to the pleasure it always gave the members to see ladies at their matches—both Tennis and Cricket—and expressed the hope that they would attend more frequently and in even greater numbers. He also commended the Lawn-Tennis Subcommittee for the excellence of their arrangements for the Tournament and the almost record time in which it had been got through. He drew the attention of all present to the very handsome Challenge Cup so kindly presented to the Club by the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., and also remarked on the wonderfully consistent play of the invincible veterans—Dr. Atkinson and Mr. Sercombe Smith—who had won both the Doubles events.

Having been requested to do so, Mrs. ATKINSON then presented the prizes to the following fortunate, but thoroughly deserving, winners:—

"A" CLASS SINGLES (HANDICAP).

A. Humphreys.

DOUBLES (HANDICAP).

Atkinson and Sercombe Smith.

"B" CLASS SINGLES (HANDICAP).

C. P. Chater, jun.

PROFESSIONAL PAIRS.

Atkinson and Sercombe Smith.

CHAMPIONSHIP.

A. Humphreys.

The PRESIDENT then asked Mrs. Atkinson to accept a bouquet with a silver holder as a little memento of the occasion and, having thanked her for her kindness in coming to give away the prizes, called for three cheers and a "tiger," which were heartily given.

Dr. ATKINSON briefly thanked those present for their kindness and stated that, though he should like to see some younger men win the double events another time, he and his partner were determined to try and win them again—if not one year, two years hence.

The ground is now closed for the summer months and will be opened again at the beginning of October.

HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL FOR MAY.

The following scores were returned:—

CAPTAIN'S CUP.			
Mr. K. McK. Ross	95	14	81
Mr. W. D. Kraft	97	15	82
Mr. C. W. May	89	4	85
Mr. C. M. G. Burnie	87	1	86
Mr. A. B. Smith	1-5	18	87
Mr. E. A. Ram	101	12	89
Hon. R. M. Rumsey, R.N.	102	11	91
17 entries.			

POOL.			
Mr. W. D. Kraft	97	15	82
Mr. C. M. G. Burnie	87	1	86
Mr. E. J. Grist	97	5	92
10 entries.			

For final possession of the Cup presented by Mr. C. Palmer in 1901 play was commenced early in April. Eight of the monthly winners were present in the Colony at the time. Mr. McMurtrie was again victorious, thus winning the Captain's prize for three years in succession—a noteworthy performance. The ties resulted as below:—

FIRST ROUND.

Mr. C. M. G. Burnie (1) beat Mr. J. Badham

Thornhill, R.A. (19) by 5.4: Mr. J. H. T. McMurtrie (12) beat Capt. C. C. Ranton (11) by 6.5: Mr. T. S. Forrest (12) beat Lieut. G. S. Palmer (11) by 7.9: Major H. S. King, R.E. () beat Mr. H. W. Robertson by 5.4.

SECOND ROUND.

McMurtrie beat Burnie by 5.4: Forrest beat King by 2 holes.

FINAL.

McMurtrie beat Forrest after a good match by 2.1.

RIFLE SHOOTING MATCH.

The following are the scores in the return match Royal Engineers v. Range Staff, fired at Kowloon Range on the 2nd inst.:—

RANGE STAFF.			
	200.	500.	800.
Sgt. Instr. Davis, R.M.L.I.	30	32	32
C. P. O. Denner, R.N.	32	33	28
Sgt. Instr. Cross, R.M.L.I.	30	31	29
P. O. 1 Allen, R.N.	28	31	28
P. O. 1 Chase, R.N.	32	27	25
Pte. Evans, R.M.L.I.	30	32	20
Sgt. Instr. Griffiths, R.M.L.I.	27	24	21
P. O. 1 Rippen, R.N.	20	27	22
Totals	229	287	205

Averages 28.62 29.62 25.82 83.87

ROYAL ENGINEERS.

	200.	500.	800.	Total.
Cpl. Holcombe, R.E.	32	29	23	84
Sgt. Hopson, R.E.	31	25	25	81
Sgt. Eddy, R.E.	30	27	24	81
Cpl. Lowe, R.E.	28	28	26	80
Spr. Bond, R.E.	25	25	26	76
Spr. McEwen, R.E.	29	31	15	75
Maj. Baker-Brown, R.E.	26	30	18	74
Q.M.S. Bryant, R.E.	25	28	19	72
Totals	224	223	176	623

Averages 28.00 27.87 22.00 77.87

The Range Staff thus won by 43 points. They won the first match by 36 points. The shoot on the 2nd inst. was fired in very hot weather, in a glaring sun, but with a steady wind.

HONGKONG CHESS CLUB.

Local chess-players have had their attention concentrated upon the two games now proceeding by cable with Singapore, and nothing else has been doing at the Chess Club. The score of the two games is given below. The Hongkong playing committee consists of the following:—Messrs. M. J. Dannenberg, E. J. Moses, T. H. Reid, P. W. Sergeant, and P. C. de Souza, but the consultation on the games is not necessarily limited to these players.

Game A.

White.	Black.	White.	Black.
(Singapore).	(Hongkong).	(Hongkong).	(Singapore).
1 P-K4	P-K4	1 P-K4	P-K4
2 P-KB4	Pt. P	2 Kt-KB3	Kt-QB3
3 Kt-KB3	P-KKt4	3 B-Kt5	Kt-B3
4 P-KR4	P-Kt5	4 Castles	B-B4
5 Kt-Kt5	P-KR3	5 Kt-P	Kt-Kt
6 Kt-P	Kt-Kt	6 P-Q4	Q-K4
7 P-Q4	P-B6	7 Pt. B	Qt. P
8 Pt. P	B-K2	8 Kt-B3	

HONGKONG.

The Naval Yard authorities are eking out their curtailed water supply with water condensed by the old steamship *Swift*.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week were 291 non-Chinese and 142 Chinese to the former, 59 non-Chinese and 1,571 Chinese to the latter institution.

Application has been made to the Officer Commanding the Forces at Hongkong for the services of a qualified armourer to overhaul the guns of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps.

The new Attorney-General for Hongkong, Sir Henry Spencer Berkeley, will arrive here by the *Yawata Maru* from Sydney on or about the 24th of June. He sails from Fiji via New Zealand.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government wishes the Community to understand that every effort is being made by Government to tide over the present crisis as regards water supply, no money being spared for that object. Every sympathy is felt for those who have to undergo suffering, but it is hoped that all residents will co-operate with the Government in endeavouring to curtail as far as possible any unnecessary use of water and to practice strict economy in the meanwhile.

Mr. J. R. Wood has been appointed Acting Police Magistrate in the New Territory.

Mr. C. S. Sharp has been appointed an Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council.

Mr. W. E. Spratt, senior writer at the Royal Naval Depot, Portsmouth, has been appointed senior writer in the Commodore's Office at Hongkong.

It is notified by the Admiralty that Captain W. G. Simpson, R.M.L.I., of H.M.S. *Tamar*, has been appointed Musketry Instructor at Hongkong.

The appointments are notified in the *Gazette* of Mr. A. Gibson as Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, and of Mr. Lau Lai as Resident Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator at the Government Dispensary, Wanchai.

The following additional members have been appointed to the Coronation Celebration Committee:—Messrs. J. R. M. Smith, Gershom Stewart, W. H. Wickham, M. S. Northcote, and T. H. Reid.

The detachment of the Weihaiwei Regiment which is now in the Colony awaiting embarkation for England to attend the Coronation is composed of fine, sturdy specimens of the northern Chinaman, and should create a very favourable impression in London.

A great many petty larcenies are reported as having occurred in the City of late, the bulk of these being thefts of jewelry and money by water-carrying coolies who obtain ready entrance to houses just now owing to the water famine. Householders are warned to keep everything portable lockfast while these undesirable, but meanwhile indispensable, characters are about.

A correspondent writes to us with reference to the present water-famine, making the suggestion that the steamers of local companies which trade with the West River and return hither with ballast should on their voyage back to Hongkong carry in their bilge Canton River water, which can be used after filtering and even in its original state will be as good as some of the water now in use.

Early Tuesday morning, on the 6th inst. a Chinaman effected an entrance into a house at 4, Connaught Road and was making off with four pieces of cloth valued at \$6 when he was discovered by the occupants. He threw the cloth over the balcony to the street and then jumped over himself. He fell heavily and broke his leg, the distance of the fall being about 20 feet. His injuries necessitated his removal to the Hospital. The charge has been entered against him of attempted felony.

"Sine Aqua" writes complaining that on Tuesday or Wednesday last, before noon, an inspector or constable, either on duty or on his own pleasure, was seen walking along the Caine Road threatening the tenants of several houses to have their water-supply stopped if they allowed water-carriers from other people to get water from their premises. Has there been, he asks, any special by-law to this effect passed and, if so, by whose authority? There has been no such by-law passed, so far as we can learn.

A little native boy of six years who resided with his parents in the New Territory has died from hydrophobia brought on through a bite from a chow dog. The owner of the animal, a Chinese farmer, when he heard of the occurrence, killed the dog and reported the matter to the police. The boy was placed under the treatment of the resident Chinese doctor in the New Territory, but nothing could be done for him, and he died in great agony. A coroner's inquest was held, but no one was held to be culpable, and a verdict was returned in accordance with the circumstances.

Hongkong is soon to have a guest who can scarcely be described as welcome. At H.B.M. Police Court, Shanghai, last week, a certain Aide Rago was charged on remand with stealing \$600 worth of jewellery from a Chinese woman's house at Shanse Road, the case having been adjourned in order to obtain medical evidence as to whether accused was of unsound mind. Mr. Justice King said he had received a letter from Dr. Marshall which certified accused's insanity, consequently arrangements would be made as soon as possible to send him to Hongkong, in the meantime he would be removed back to the goal and taken proper care of. The charge of theft against accused would be dismissed.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 26th April.—Since our last issue a brisk competition has existed at advancing prices for the few remaining lots offering in the old season's production, and although some parcels will still come forward from the country and elsewhere, the season is regarded as practically finished. New Silk.—Arrivals of first crop will commence in about two weeks. Owing to prolonged drought, a deficit of 40 per cent. is estimated, and reellers, fearing the effect this production may possibly have upon prices of cocoons in the crops immediately following, are very averse to contracting ahead in New Silk. As far as can be ascertained, forward contracts to date do not exceed 500 to 600 bales. Waste.—Under the influence of falling Exchange, a moderate business has been done. Stocks are light and well held and Dollar rates have a tendency to advance.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 9th May.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 9th May.—The upward tendency continues, market being brisk. Quotations are:—Shekloong, No. 1, White.....\$8.85 to \$8.40 pcl.
do. 2, White.....7.05 to 7.10 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown.....5.95 to 6.00 "
do. 2, Brown.....5.85 to 5.90 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....8.25 to 8.30 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....6.95 to 7.00 "
do. 1, Brown.....5.85 to 5.90 "
do. 2, Brown.....5.75 to 5.80 "
Foochow Sugar Candy.....12.10 to 12.15 "
Shekloong.....9.95 to 10.00 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 9th May.—The advance in price continues, holders being firm. Quotations are:—Saigon, Ordinary.....\$3.25 to 3.30
Round, Good quality.....4.10 to 4.15
Long.....4.25 to 4.30
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2.....3.40 to 3.45
Garden, No. 1.....3.75 to 3.80
White.....4.20 to 4.25
Fine Cargo.....4.35 to 4.40

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 9th May.—Only a small business done at a rise of \$1 to \$1 per picul. Stock about 8,000 bales.
Bombay.....21.50 to 23.00 piculs
Bengal (New), Rangoon, } 23.00 to 25.00 "
and Dacca, }
Shanghai and Japanese, .. 29.00 to 31.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo, .. 29.00 to 31.00 "
Sale: 125 bales.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 9th May:—The market has further advanced \$1 to \$2 per bale, but sales reported are comparatively small, the high prices now demanded almost checking business. Holders have practically withdrawn stocks from the market by asking an advance on present quotations of one to two dollars per bale to cover the decline in exchange. Buyers, however, appear quite indifferent and are keeping entirely aloof in the hope of forcing down prices, but as importers are firm and unsold stock small, we expect to see present position maintained. The improvement recently reported from Bombay has been confirmed and latest telegrams make that market strong at annas 4½ for superior No. 10s. and 5½ for No. 20s. We close quiet but steady.

Local Manufacture:—Local mill quotations are maintained as last advised, but they appear to have experienced no demand.

Japanese Yarn:—A further heavy rise in exchange has rendered any new importation quite impracticable for the present.

Raw Cotton:—There is no local buying for the interior as the country seems irresponsible and Japan exporters appear to have satisfied their requirements; the local mill being not in evidence. Although prices show no weakness dealers seem to get somewhat anxious. Estimated unsold stock about 10,000 bales. Chinese cotton continues quiet and we have no business to report. Quotations are—Bengal \$20 to \$25 and Chinese \$25 to \$29.

Exchange on India after receding to Rs. 224½ for T/T and Rs. 224½ for Post, closes to-day at Rs. 226 and Rs. 226½ respectively. On Shanghai 78½ and on Japan 20½ per cent. premium, showing a rise of two points on last mail.

The undernoted business in imported and local yarn is reported from Shanghai for the three weeks ending the 4th instant, viz:—

Indian:—Total sales 3,472 bales comprising 175 bales No. 6s., 2,000 bales No. 10s., 125 bales No. 12s., 475 bales No. 16s. and 717 bales No. 20s., prices showing an advance of half to one tael and market closing strong. The stock was estimated at about 25,000 bales.

Japanese:—Total sales 1,600 bales on the basis of Tls. 87½ to 94 for No. 16s. and Tls. 90 to 98½ for No. 20s., prices showing an improvement of 1 to 3 taels and market closing firm.

Local:—Total sales about 2,600 bales on the basis of Tls. 84 for No. 12s., Tls. 86 for No. 14s. and Tls. 87 to 88 for No. 16s.; rates having improved 1 to 2 taels and market closing steady.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 9th May.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn: 100 bales No. 6 at \$85, 50 bales No. 8 at \$86, 1,400 bales No. 10 at \$86 to \$89.50, 600 bales No. 12 at \$95 to \$118, 850 bales No. 16 at \$98 to \$115, 1,800 bales No. 20 at \$107 to \$125. White Shirtings:—250 pieces x 9 at \$6.15.

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$85.00 to \$130.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—

	per piece.
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.10 to 2.20
7 lbs.	2.25 to 2.50
8.4 lbs.	3.00 to 3.80
9 to 10 lbs.	3.75 to 4.75
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.45 to 2.75
58 to 60 "	3.20 to 4.20
64 to 66 "	4.30 to 5.10
Fine	5.80 to 7.50
Book-folds	4.85 to 6.75
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.75 to 1.80
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.75 to 2.00
7lbs. (32 ")	2.05 to 2.35
6lbs. (32 ") , Mexs.	2.10 to 2.20
7lbs. (32 ") , "	2.85 to 3.40
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	3.10 to 3.60
Drills, English—40yds., 18½ to 14 lbs.	4.10 to 6.85

FANCY COTTONS.—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5 lbs } 1.60 to 5.00

Brocades—Dyed to —

DAMASKS.—

	per yard
Chintzes—Assorted	0.68 to 0.20
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.24 to 0.50
Velveteens—18 in.	0.22 to 0.80

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.30 to 3.00

WOOLLENS.—

	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.....	0.65 to 2.00
German 1.25 to 3.00	
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.....	1.25 to 3.00

Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs. 6.50 to 8.50

Assorted..... 6.60 to 8.85

Camlets—Assorted..... 12.00 to 32.00

Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches } 12.00 to 18.00

Assorted } 8.00 to 9.50

Orleans—Plain 8.00 to 9.50

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. 4.00 to 9.00

METALS.—

	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	4.75 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.	4.75 to —
Swedish Bar	4.80 to —
Small Round Rod	5.20 to —
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.,	6.40 to —
Wire, 16/25,	9.00 to —
Old Wire Rope	2.60 to —
Pig Non.....	35.50 to 38.50
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop ..	8.50 to —
Australian	8.50 to —

Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14/20 oz. 41.00 to —

Vivian's 14/20 oz. 41.00 to —

Elliot's 14/20 oz. 41.00 to —

Composition Nails..... 61.00 to —

Japan Copper, Slabs..... 39.00 to —

Tin..... 75.00 to —

Tin-Plates 8.50 to —

Steel ½ to ¾ 5.90 to —

SUNDRIES—

Quicksilver 174.50 to —

per box.

Window Glass 6.00 to —

per 10-gal. case

Kerosene Oil..... 2.10 to —

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—*Inaba Maru* (str.), *Hitachi Maru* (str.).
 FOR LONDON.—*Coromandel* (str.), *Glaucus* (str.), *Japan* (str.), *Machaon* (str.), *Agamemnon* (str.), *Stentor* (str.), *Alcinous* (str.), *Kaisow* (str.), *Hitachi Maru* (str.), *Inaba Maru* (str.), *Hyson* (str.).
 FOR LIVERPOOL.—*Achilles* (str.), *Peleus* (str.).
 FOR MARSEILLES.—*Tonkin* (str.), *Hitachi Maru* (str.), *Inaba Maru* (str.), *Japan* (str.), *Hyson* (str.).
 FOR BREMEN.—*Princess Irene* (str.).
 FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Adria* (str.), *Sazonia* (str.), *Sumbia* (str.), *Serbia* (str.), *Suevia* (str.), *Strassburg* (str.), *Silesia* (str.).
 FOR TRIESTE.—*Austria* (str.).
 FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—*Duke of Fife* (str.), *Kaga Maru* (str.).
 FOR VANCOUVER.—*Empress of Japan* (str.), *Athenian* (str.).
 FOR NEW YORK.—*Spithead* (str.), *Queensland* (str.), *Mogul* (str.).
 FOR PORTLAND (Or.).—*Indrapura* (str.).
 FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—*Tsinan* (str.), *Kasuga Maru* (str.), *Australian* (str.).
 FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—*Mitsui Maru* (str.).
 FOR BOMBAY VIA SINGAPORE AND PENANG.—*Bisagno* (str.).

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 9th May.—The general depression in our market continues, and there is again but little encouragement to investors to report.
 BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have tumbled under selling orders from the North, and \$590 is the best rate at present obtainable. London remains steady at £63. Nationals continue in request at \$27.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions can still be placed in small lots at \$390. China Traders after sales up to \$57 are easier with probable sellers at the rate. Yangtszes are wanted at \$123. Cantons are somewhat easier at \$170 at which a small transaction is reported.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have been disposed of at the reduced rate of \$330 at which moreshares can be placed. Chinas are quiet at \$80.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have continued steady at \$38½ with sales and some more shares obtainable. Indo-Chinas have improved under buying orders from the North to \$150 at which sales are reported, the market closing with sellers at \$132. China and Manilas have sold up to \$41 but are now obtainable at \$40. Douglases are in small request at \$43½. Star Ferries continue on offer at \$23 (old) and \$12 (new). Shell Transports are neglected at \$2.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars after sales at \$120 and \$119 are offering at \$118. Luzons continue on offer at \$25 without finding buyers.

MINING.—Panjoms have sold up to \$5½ and are steady. Charbonnages can be placed at \$550. Raubs continue neglected at \$9.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have further receded to \$240 with sales and further shares to be obtained at the rate. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have sold in small lots at \$89 and \$90, and close with sellers at the higher quotation. New Amoy Docks are still enquired for at \$35.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands are neglected at the closing quotation of \$182½ sellers. Kowloon Lands can be obtained at \$30, and West Points at \$55. Hongkong Hotels have sold at \$139 and \$140 and close steady at the former rate with probable buyers. Oriente Hotels are weak at \$50 sellers. Humphreys Estates have sold and are still obtainable at \$12.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos can be obtained locally at Tls. 47. Laou Kung Mows have been sold in the North at the advanced rate of Tls. 50. Hongkong Cottons after sales at \$17 are on further offer at the rate.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have been booked at \$21½ and \$22 and further shares are enquired for at the higher rate. A. S. Watsons after sales at \$14½ are obtainable at \$15. Ropes have again receded to \$140 sellers. Fenwicks have improved to \$45½ with sales. United Asbestos (ordinary) are wanted at \$9. China Providents have sold at \$9½ and can still be purchased at the rate. Universal Traders are wanted at \$20.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$590, buyers £63, L'don.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$27, buyers
B. Shares	£8	\$27, buyers
Four. Shares	£1	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	\$1, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$21, buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$25, sellers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$15, sellers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9.75, sales
China Sugar	\$100	\$118, sellers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$500, nominal
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 47, sellers
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 150.
Hongkong	\$100	\$17, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$8	\$12, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$45½, sales
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$22, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$14, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$3	\$7, sellers
Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$8, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$139.
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$240, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$90, sales & sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$140, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$240.
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$170.
China Fire	\$20	\$80.
China Traders	\$25	\$67.
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$330, buyers
North China	\$25	Tls. 181, ex div.
Straits	\$20	nominal. [buys]
Union	\$50	\$390, buyers
Yangtze	\$80	\$123, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$182½, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$12, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$80	\$30, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$55, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$25, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$35, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$550.
Jelebu	\$5	\$3, sellers
Queen's Mines, Ltd.	250.	nominal.
Olivers Mines, A.	\$5	nominal.
Do. B.	\$4	nominal.
Punjom	\$10	\$5½, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$14, sellers
Raubs	18	\$9.
New Amoy Dock	\$84	\$35, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$50, sellers
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$9.
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$55.
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$40, sellers
China Mutual Pref.	\$5	nominal.
Do. Ordinary	£10	\$10. 10s., buyers
Do. Bonus	£7. 10.	\$10., sellers
Do. Bonus	£5	\$5, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$48½, buyers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$38½, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$182, sellers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	£1	\$22, sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$23, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$12, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$1.
Do.	\$10	\$9, sales & buyers
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$250, sellers
Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$20, buyers
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$8½, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$15, sellers

VERNON SMYTH, & Brokers.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 9th May.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—
 Telegraphic Transfer 1/8½
 Bank Bills, on demand 1/8½

Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 1/8½
 Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 1/8½
 Credits, at 4 months' sight 1/8½
 Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 1/8½

ON PARIS.—
 Bank Bills, on demand 2.11½
 Credits, 4 months' sight 2.15½

ON GERMANY.—
 On demand 1.72½

ON NEW YORK.—
 Bank Bills, on demand 41½
 Credits, 60 days' sight 41½

ON BOMBAY.—
 Telegraphic Transfer 126
 Bank, on demand 126½

ON CALCUTTA.—
 Telegraphic Transfer 126
 Bank, on demand 126½

ON SHANGHAI.—
 Bank, at sight 74
 Private, 30 days' sight 74½

ON YOKOHAMA.—
 On demand 20½ p.c. pm.

ON MANILA.—
 On demand 1½ p.c. pm.

ON SINGAPORE.—
 On demand ½ p.c. pm.

ON BATAVIA.—On demand 102½

ON HAIPHONG.—On demand 1 p.c. pm.

ON SAIGON.—On demand ½ p.c. pm.

ON BANGKOK.—On demand 60½

SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate 11.75
 GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 61.50
 BAR SILVER per oz. 23½

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 9th May.—The volume of business transacted during the period under review is larger than that of the preceding fortnight. From Saigon to Hongkong, 17 cents is obtainable for medium sized carriers, 16½ for large carriers; to Java, 25.30 cents; to one port Philippines, 30 cents last. Java to Hongkong, 25 cents per picul for wet sugar; to Japan, 35 cents per picul for dry sugar. Coal freights are firm. Mororan to this, \$8; to Cebu, \$6; to Manila, \$5 per ton. Moji to Hongkong, \$2.15; to Singapore, \$3 per ton. The following are the settlements:—

Esmeralda—British steamer, 966 tons, sold for £14,500.

Savio—German steamer, 1,022 tons, Mororan to Hongkong, \$3 per ton.

Adelheid—German steamer, 921 tons, Mororan to Cebu, \$6 per ton.

Achilles—British steamer, 4,431 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$2.60 per ton.

Edward Barry—Russian steamer, 1,984 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$3 per ton.

Labor—Norwegian steamer, 949 tons, Moji to Manila, \$4 per ton.

Wuhu—British steamer, 1,250 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.15 per ton.

Pannan—British steamer, 1,206 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.15 per ton.

Two China Navigation Co.'s steamers, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.15 per ton.

Yedo Maru—Japanese steamer, 1,068 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 25 cents per picul.

Wosang—British steamer, 1,127 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 26 cents per picul.

Benlarig—British steamer, 1,453 tons, Hongay to Saigon, \$3 per ton.

Themis—Norwegian steamer, 1,208 tons, Hongay to Saigon, \$3.10 per ton.

Hansa—German steamer, 1,201 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul (part cargo.)

Tatcheong—German steamer, 939 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, \$4.500 in full.

A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, two ports north coast Java to one to two ports Japan, 35 cents and 38 cents per picul.

Shantung—British steamer, 1,835 tons, two ports north coast Java to Kobe and Yokohama, 35 cents per picul.

Hupei—British steamer, 1,205 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul.

Petrarch—German steamer, 1,252 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul.

Skarpono—Norwegian steamer, 1,130 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul.

Tetartos—German steamer, 1,578 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul.

Germania—German steamer, 1,714 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul.

Hipsang—British steamer, 1,040 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17½ cents per picul.

Diamante—British steamer, 1,253 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.

Holstein—German steamer, 1,108 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.

Arnold Luyken—German steamer, 1,108 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.

Chunshan—British steamer, 1,282 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.
Pakshan—British steamer, 1,285 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.
Hans Menell—German steamer, 1,095 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 15 cents per picul.
 A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Saigon to one port north coast Java, 80 cents per picul.
 A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Saigon to one port north coast Java, 28 cents per picul.
Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 33 cents (2nd trip).
Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 33 cents per picul (1st trip).
Elg—Norwegian steamer, 708 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 31 cents per picul.
Shansi—British steamer, 1,240 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 30 cents per picul.
Daphne—German steamer, 1,415 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 30 cents per picul.
 A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Saigon to one port Philippines, 30 cents per picul.
Deuteroi—German steamer, 1,001 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 30 cents per picul.
Prima—Norwegian steamer, 761 tons, Saigon to Iloilo and thence to Hongkong, 45 cents per picul.
Piccola—German steamer, 875 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.
Argo—Norwegian steamer, 992 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$5,250 per month.

SHIPPING

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

May—

- 4, Glenfalloch, British str., from Singapore.
- 4, Mathilde, German str., from Haiphong.
- 5, Australian, British str., from Kobe.
- 5, Bisagno, Italian str., from Bombay.
- 5, Chowfa, German str., from Swatow.
- 5, Duke of Fife, British str., from Tacoma.
- 5, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
- 5, Kaifong, British str., from Manila.
- 5, Kanagawa Maru, Jap. str., from London.
- 5, Kohsichang, German str., from Bangkok.
- 5, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
- 5, Seirstad, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
- 5, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 5, Whampoa, British str., from Swatow.
- 5, Ailsa Craig, British str., from Moji.
- 6, China, German str., from Samarang.
- 6, Arnold Luyken, Ger. str., from Saigon.
- 6, Athenian, British str., from Vancouver.
- 6, Empress of Japan, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
- 6, Hangeang, British str., from Canton.
- 6, Idzumi Maru, Japanese str., from London.
- 6, Laos, French str., from Marseilles.
- 6, Prosper, Norwegian str., from Canton.
- 6, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
- 6, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Tientsin.
- 6, Deucalion, British str., from Liverpool.
- 7, Emma Luyken, Ger. str., from Saigon.
- 7, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
- 7, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
- 7, Hsinfung, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 7, Merionethshire, British str., from London.
- 7, Perla, British str., from Manila.
- 7, Petrarch, German str., from Amoy.
- 7, Saphir, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
- 7, Suevia, German str., from Hamburg.
- 7, Triumph, German str., from Haiphong.
- 8, Adria, German str., from Moji.
- 8, Ballarat, British str., from Bombay.
- 8, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
- 8, Fausang, British str., from Canton.
- 8, Holstein, German str., from Cheribon.
- 8, Ibadan, British str., from Bangkok.
- 8, Lindula, British str., from Rangoon.
- 8, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
- 8, Pakhoi, British str., from Amoy.
- 8, Rajaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
- 8, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
- 8, Saga, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
- 9, Anping, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 9, Benlarig, British str., from Moji.
- 9, Chunsang, British str., from Chefoo.
- 9, Coromandel, British str., from Shanghai.
- 9, Glenlogan, British str., from London.
- 9, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 9, Hongmoh, British str., from Singapore.
- 9, Laisang, British str., from Calcutta.
- 9, Rabi, British str., from Manila.
- 9, Siam, British str., from Singapore.

May—

- 5, Contest, British barque, for Rajang.
- 5, Flandria, German str., for Singapore.
- 5, Hongwan, British str., for Amoy.
- 5, Indus, French str., for Europe.
- 5, Tosa Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
- 6, Changaha, British str., for Yokohama.

- 6, Clavering, British str., for Tacoma.
- 6, Frigga, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
- 6, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Haiphong.
- 6, Hangchow, British str., for Chinkiang.
- 6, Heim, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
- 6, Laos, French str., for Shanghai.
- 6, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
- 6, Michael Jebson, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
- 6, Nanyang, German str., for Saigon.
- 6, Skarpano, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
- 6, Taisang, British str., for Canton.
- 6, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
- 6, Whampoa, British str., for Canton.
- 7, Anping Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
- 7, Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.
- 7, Hangeang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 7, Indravelli, British str., for Portland (Or.).
- 7, Kutsang, British str., for Saigon.
- 7, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
- 7, Mathilde, German str., for Hoihow.
- 7, Onsang, British str., for Singapore.
- 7, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
- 8, Ailsa Craig, British str., for Moji.
- 8, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Canton.
- 8, Deucalion, British str., for Shanghai.
- 8, Formosa, British str., for Tamsui.
- 8, Hsinfung, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 8, Kanagawa Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
- 8, Prosper, Norwegian str., for Newchwang.
- 9, Australian, British str., for Australia.
- 9, Ballarat, British str., for Shanghai.
- 9, Chowfa, German str., for Bangkok.
- 9, Fausang, British str., for Tientsin.
- 9, Seirstad, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
- 9, Woosung, British str., for Canton.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Thales*, from Swatow, Mrs. Bridges and three children.
 Per *Michael Jebson*, from Haiphong, Messrs. C. P. Boland, Edouard Lirbet and Saint-Fort Hortier.
 Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Dr. Strebel, Messrs. John Gray, J. J. Dunne, H. Canallan, F. de Cunha, C. Hirai, A. Barrata, H. Hewson, E. Hewson and T. Smith.
 Per *Indus*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Mrs. Graiff and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Mottet, Messrs. E. W. Mitchell, E. Ajonsberg, John Lalron, Braidwood, Kysell and Rev. Peynet; for Singapore, from Shanghai, Mr. Sieger; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Mr. Finacoshi; from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Colomb and child, Messrs. Haase and Giel; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Couthardt and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Feinstein, Mr. and Miss Raphael, Capt. Gordon, Negissier, Jullian, Furlonge, Chalmers and Benetrite, Messrs. Le Calvez, Herve, Qumont, Leblond and Lecureux.
 Per *Loongmoon*, from Shanghai, Mr. Adelnde.
 Per *Duke of Fife*, from Tacoma, &c., Messrs. Marshall and McGee.
 Per *Rosetta Maru*, from Manila, Mrs. Remedios and children, Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Eaton, Mrs. Botelho and child, Mrs. S. Freeman, Mr. and Mrs. Gleeson, Mrs. Watson, Misses Burlington, Johnston, and Redpath, Messrs. S. D. Emerson, D. Garcia, Pablo Garcia, R. Harrison, Botelho, Neil Macleod, P. P. Borno, S. Yokoyama, G. L. Bardettes, C. H. Baum, C. A. Willard, F. Ladd, I. F. Cooper, H. Roosen, W. B. King, I. W. Billes, Harry Allen, I. R. Merse and W. A. Lacher.
 Per *Chowfa*, from Swatow, Messrs. Orrell and Wetherell.
 Per *Taisang*, from Shanghai, &c., Captain James and Sergeant Purdon.
 Per *Kanagawa Maru*, from London, &c., for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Wright, Mrs. L. Lee, Mrs. McGregor, Mrs. J. Smith and Master R. Smith, Messrs. A. Naerium, R. L. O. Richards, Stephen, J. A. East, W. R. McKay and John Antrobus and Dr. M. Obremaki; for Japan, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Protenose, Mr. and Mrs. P. Nadel, Mr. and Mrs. A. Ferguson and Miss J. Ferguson, Mrs. K. Kume, E. Yoshie, J. Ikeda, H. Matsunami, D. Aabi, K. Takata, T. Homer, D. Gildevist and T. Kaki.
 Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Miss R. Miller, Messrs. A. L. Miller, Geo. Hayworth, E. Staples, Smith Alliston and W. C. Fitch.
 Per *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, Messrs. W. C. Matthews and T. Ballock; from Yokohama, Mrs. A. O. Markley, Mrs. J. Sebre, Miss E. Parker, and Mr. W. A. Craikbank; from Kobe, Mr. B. Singer and Prof. Sharpe;

from Nagasaki, Messrs. Wm. Twight, Massberg, K. Shimada and Haraguchi; from Shanghai, Mrs. B. Parker, Messrs. McLaughlin, Cameron, D. Crawl and Fortin.

Per *Laos*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Messrs. Launay, Guillon and Rev. Constantine; from Colombo, Messrs. Walker, Fraser and O. M. Gremlade; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. J. Kerr, Mr. and Mrs. Kehding, Messrs. L. Sippens, De Kerchove and W. D. Millar; from Saigon, Mrs. Vinetot, Messrs. Annee Warret, Mediline and Barret.

Per *Formosa*, from Swatow, Mr. and Mrs. Glyn and child.

Per *Merionethshire*, from London, &c., Mrs. Collins, Misses Ethel and Eva Collins.

Per *Rajaburi*, from Bangkok, Mr. and Mrs. Gossoro.

Per *Lindula*, from Rangoon, &c., Mrs. B. A. Rose.

Per *Woosung*, from Shanghai, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Schonfelder and two children.

Per *Ballarat*, for Hongkong, from London, Capt. J. H. Jerram, B.N., Messrs. C. Stoner, W. Bach and B. W. Russell; from Marseilles, Mr. F. W. Richardson; from Colombo, Sergt. C. Harvey; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Helmer, Mr. and Mrs. A. Ford, Messrs. Boker, Stevenson, Stopp and H. C. Burrows; for Shanghai, from London, Mr. E. Plechoff; from Marseilles, Mr. J. Sterling; from Singapore, Messrs. A. Pescio and Dallens Syce; for Yokohama, from Port Said, Messrs. H. G. Moore and D. H. Wood.

DEPARTED.

Per *Yawata Maru*, for Australian Ports, from Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Levy, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Bebell and infant, Mrs. Frischling and two children, Miss I. G. Fisher, Mr. and Miss McElhone, Hon. W. C. Hill and Misses L. and E. Hill, Mr. F. Mack and Misses V. and I. M. Mack, Master Bebell, Major H. S. King, Messrs. Max. Schultze, Wm. Friedlander, Diatchkov, A. Smith and B. Greig.

Per *Kamakura Maru*, for London, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Plummer, Mr. and Mrs. K. Windish, Mrs. T. K. Dealy and two children, Mrs. Douglas and son, Miss Stenhouse, Mrs. Meugens and four children, Mrs. Paxton, Mrs. Henderon, Mrs. Forjan, Messrs. K. Nomato, J. J. Jenson, T. K. Dealy, T. Hance, S. Nishimura, H. Takahashi, M. Kino, John Stenhouse, A. M. Morton, D. Sontar, Bowman, J. B. Hood, Westpholl, Begley, C. W. Packett, Kotabira, Miyagawa, A. V. Reynolds, S. Nikami, N. Edolji, A. G. Runcie, Hannah, S. Pereira and Sapper V. Booty.

Per *Prins Regent Luitpold*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Soares and five children, Mrs. L. Naphalie, Mr. and Mrs. J. Rocha, Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Linpy, Consul Onstomoff, Dr. Hermann, Lieut. J. H. Roys, U.S.N., Paymaster C. B. O. Leary, U.S.N., Messrs. H. Rubart, D. Macallum, W. Macallum, G. M. Bellings, H. Pilkington, H. J. Chuders, A. C. Rozario, Robert Shewan, James Houston, G. D. Musso and W. F. Langford; for Kobe, Mr. John Smith; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Glaxbrook and three children; from Europe, &c., for Shanghai, Mrs. Baessler, Mrs. W. W. Rich, Mrs. Freedland, Mrs. J. Hooke, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Eichborn, Mrs. Vergani, Mrs. Stallhaumer, Mrs. N. May, Dr. Theodor Delius and P. Denhardt, Consul M. Muller, Rev. J. B. Ost, Misses A. Foreberg, E. Buren, and A. Jauzon, Mr. J. Lindberg and family, Mr. Gibb and family, Mr. Bergling and family, Messrs. L. Persins, W. Starke, J. Schultz, C. J. Williams, H. W. Brazier, E. H. Heath, A. B. Cook, J. A. Thomas, Wm. Wilson, J. Hardy, C. Schlumbohm, A. Seide, H. Hender, J. Vanghe, H. Spierings, J. Vestaphen, Edw. A. Pugli, Fritz Koenig, S. Herlich, M. Galke and M. Herlich; for Nagasaki, Misses Pash, Perry, B. Masnok and Omasang, Mrs. Omasang, Mrs. S. Cheono, Messrs. Eisengart and Wakaki; for Kobe, Rev. H. Woodward and Mr. G. Salicioni, for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. J. Carroll and child, Mrs. Loew, Prof. Dr. Schriba, Mr. H. Collbran and family, Messrs. H. Heussler, E. E. Evans, von Stengel, A. Sander, Andreas Petroff, G. Brenninger, J. Catto, Schmidt and A. Hanf.

Printed and published by ALFRED CUNNINGHAM for the Proprietor, at 14, Des Voeux Road, Central, City of Victoria, Hongkong.
 London Office: 131, Fleet Street, E.C.